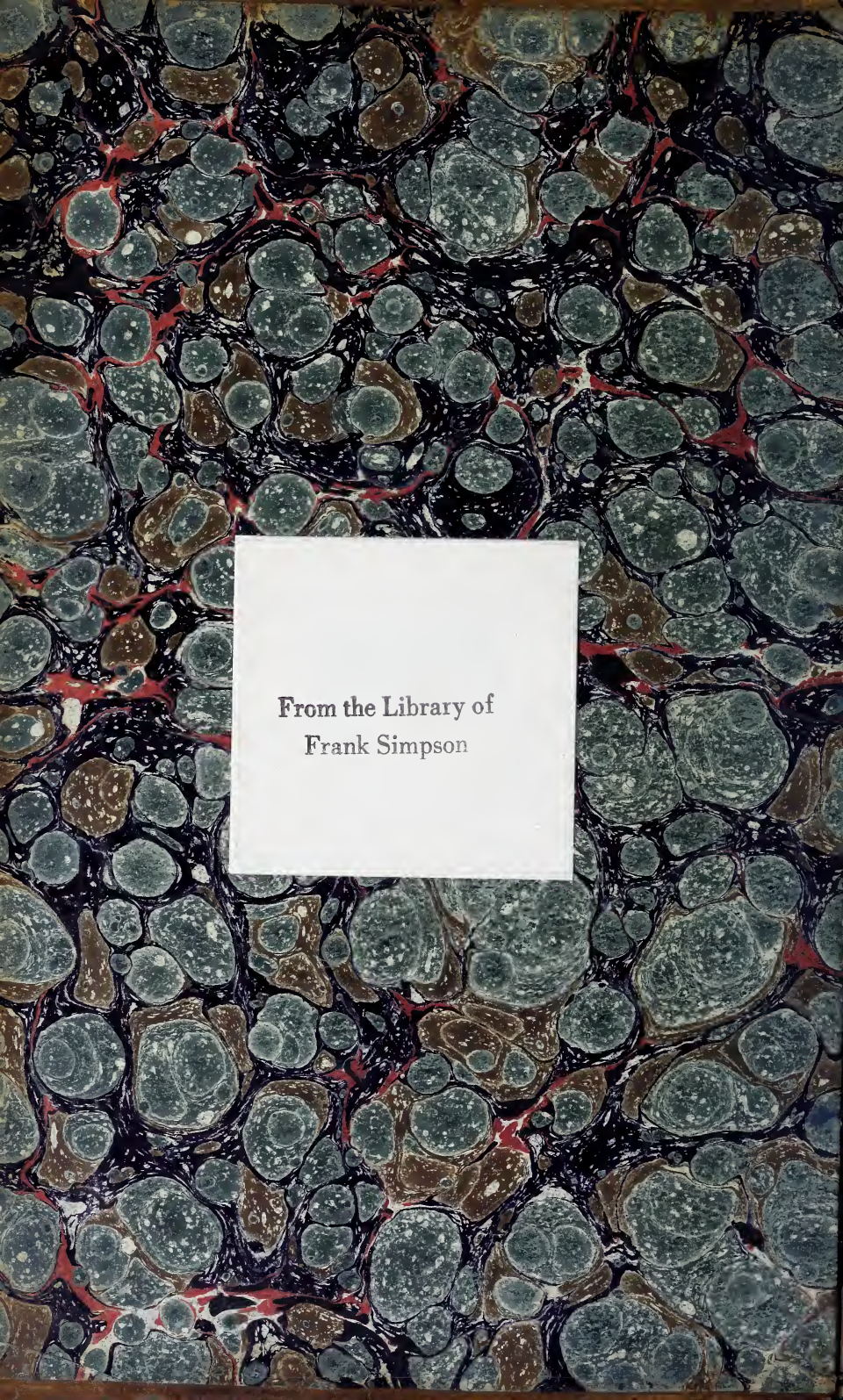
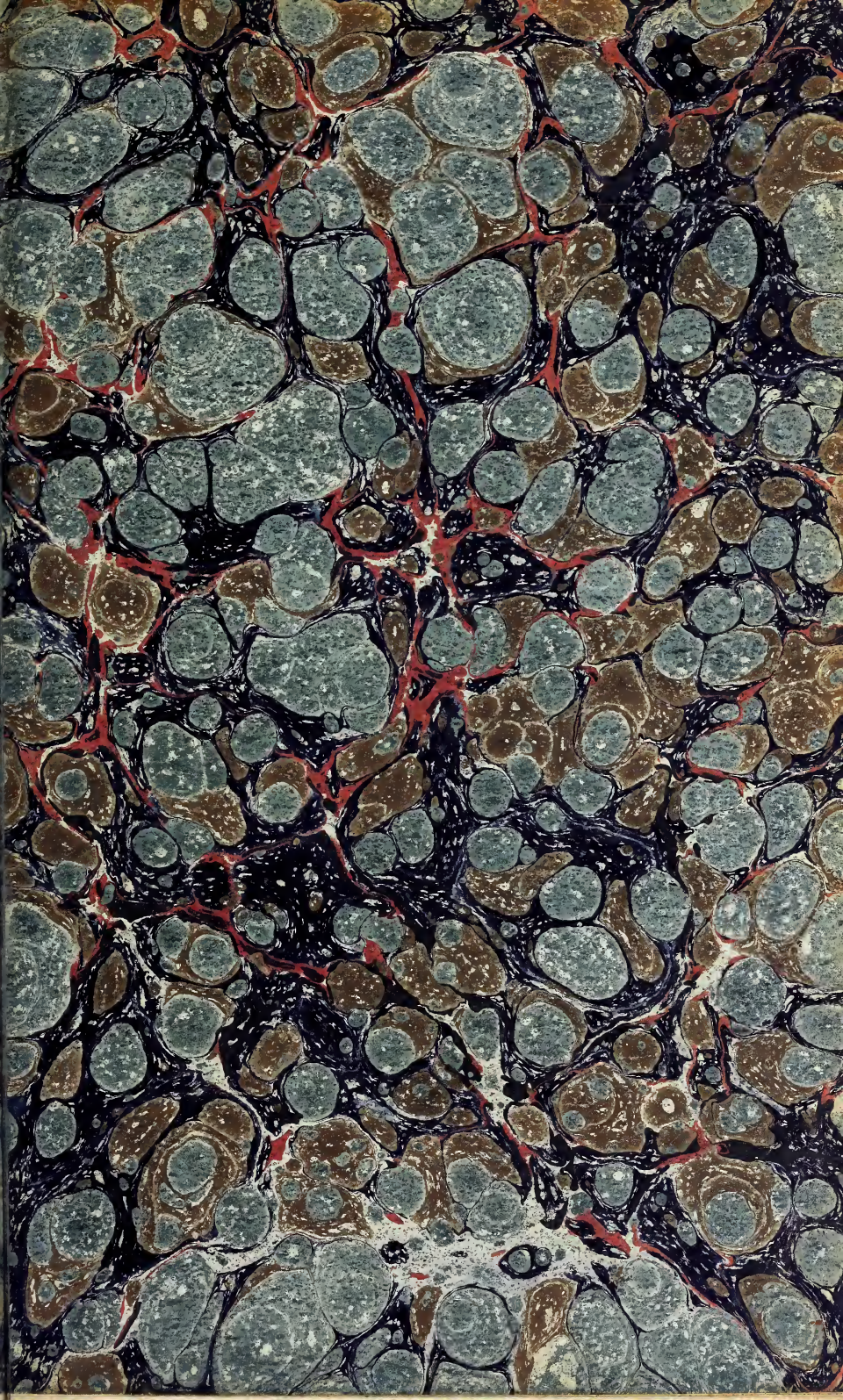


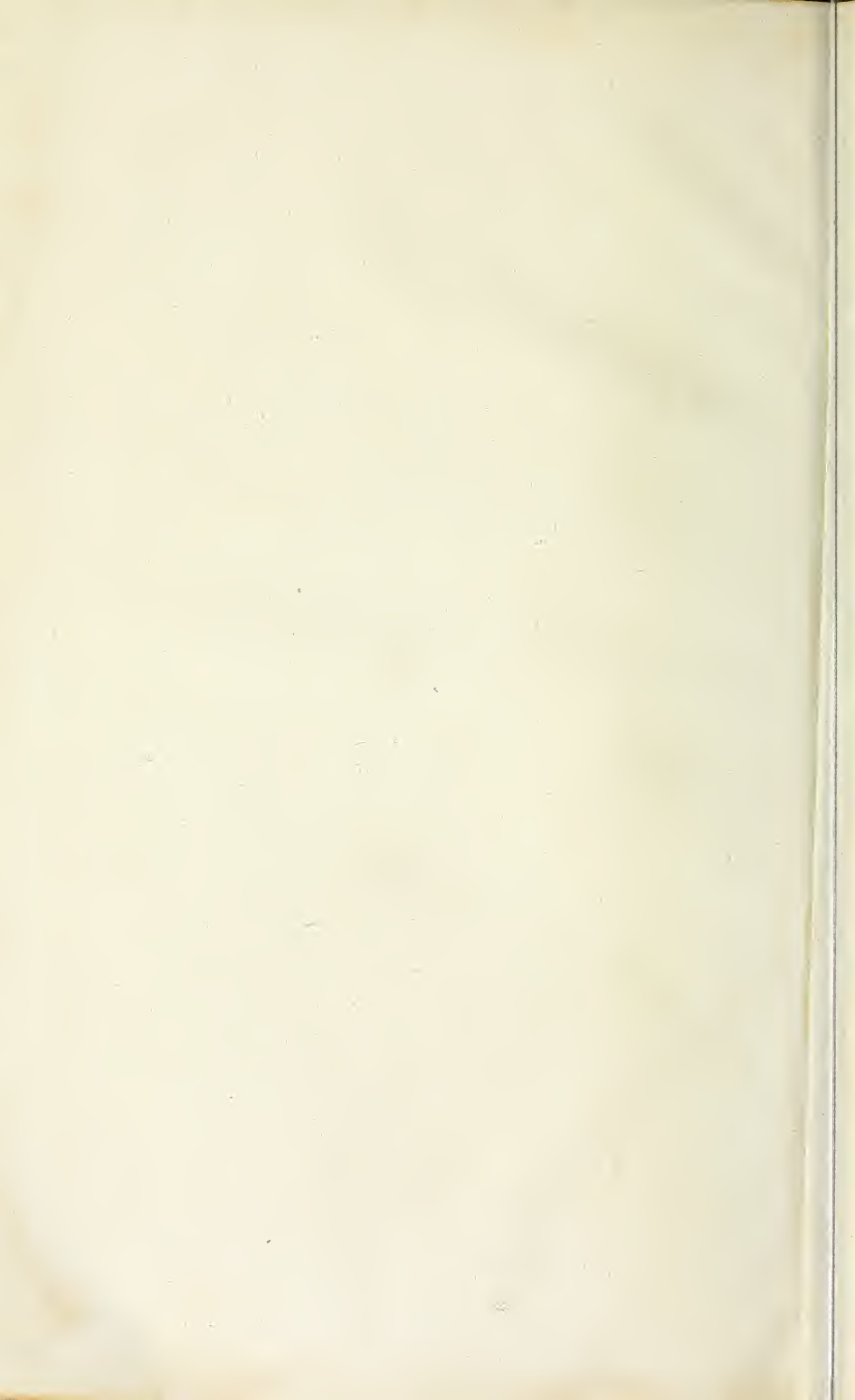


The background of the image is a traditional marbled paper pattern. It features large, irregular, rounded shapes in shades of green and brown, separated by a network of dark, almost black, veins. Interspersed throughout are thin, branching lines of a vibrant red color. The overall effect is a complex, organic, and visually rich texture.

From the Library of
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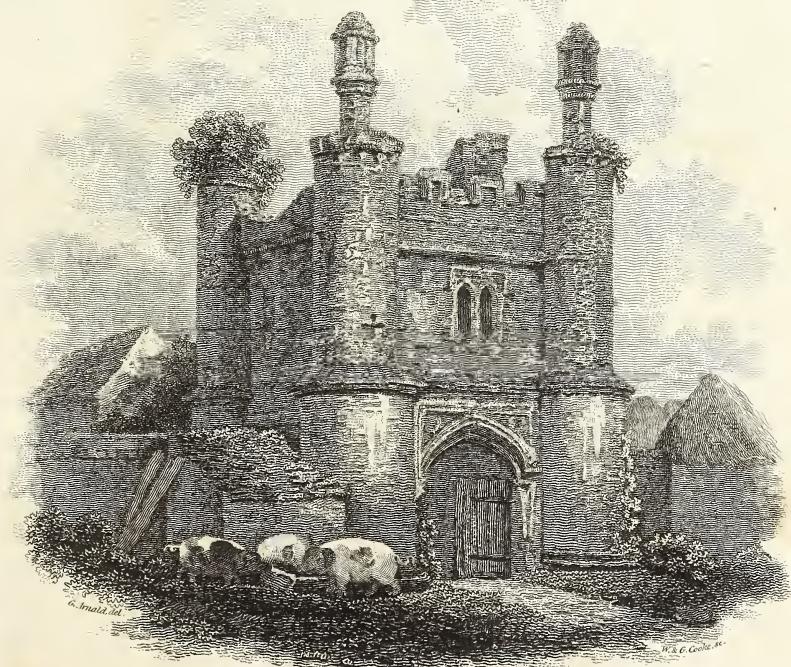






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THE
Beauties
of
ENGLAND AND WALES;
OR,
DELINEATIONS
TOPOGRAPHICAL HISTORICAL
and
DESCRIPTIVE.
Vol. V.



Outway to Tollerhurst Buckingham Essex.

London: Published by Verner & Hood, Printers, Aug. 1, 1822.

THE
BEAUTIES
OF
England and Wales;
OR,
DELINEATIONS,
TOPOGRAPHICAL, HISTORICAL, AND DESCRIPTIVE,
OF
EACH COUNTY.

EMBELLISHED WITH ENGRAVINGS.

BY
EDWARD WEDLAKE BRAYLEY AND JOHN BRITTON.

VOL. V.

Hail! seat of science, arts, and equal sway!
Freedom's fair throne, amid the subject sea,
Thee fav'ring Heaven design'd,
From wild despotic rage, the fortress of mankind.
For this he rais'd thy rocky mound,
And pour'd thy roaring billows round,
From where old Orcas hears the rough North rave,
To where Bolerium brows the western wave.

H. MOORE.

LONDON:

Printed by Thomas Maiden, Sherbourne-Lane,

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J. HARRIS, AND E. CROSBY.

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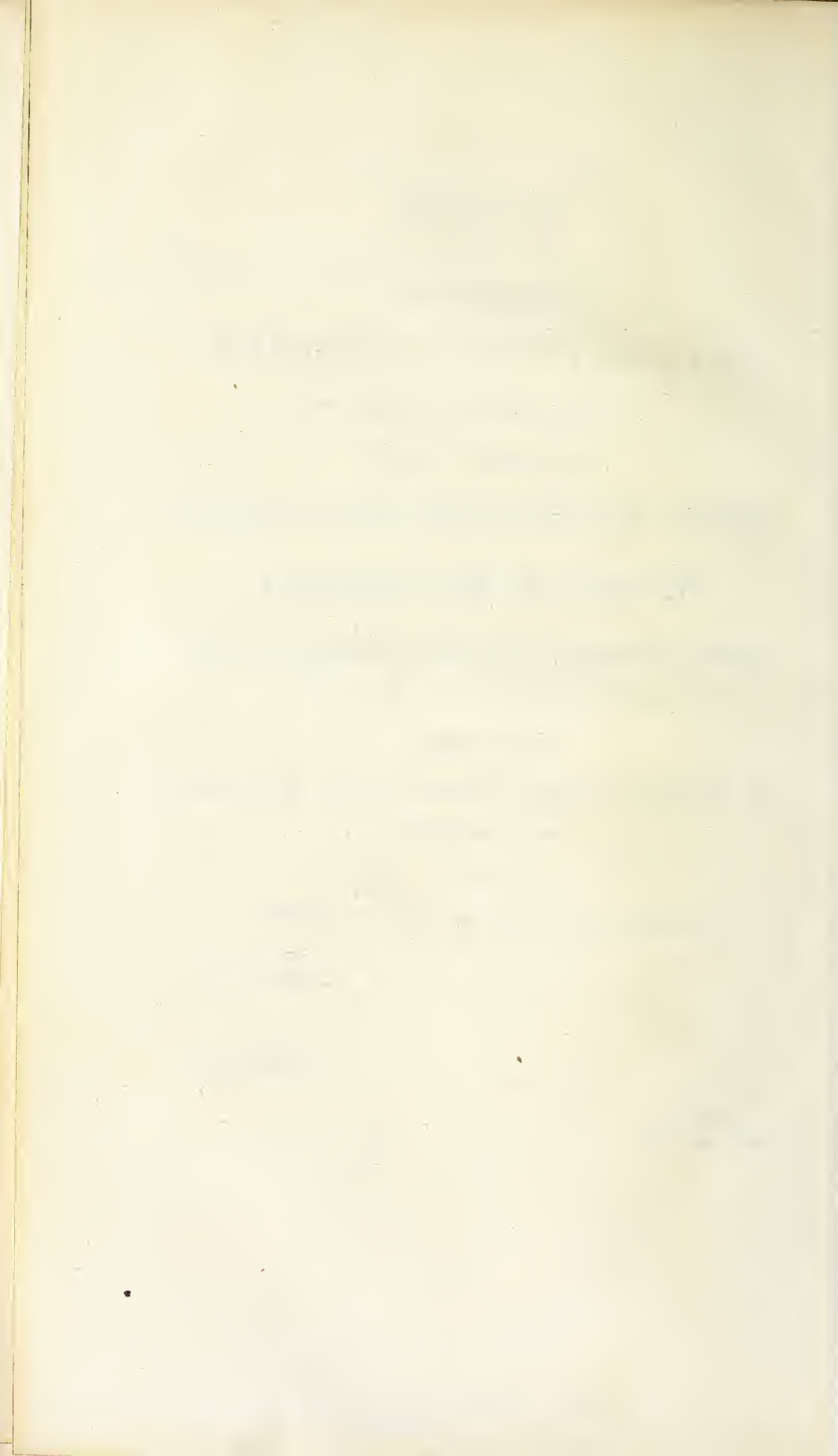
THIS VOLUME
OF
TOPOGRAPHICAL
DELINEATIONS IN ENGLAND,
IS RESPECTFULLY INSCRIBED TO
THE MOST NOBLE
GEORGE NUGENT-GRENVILLE-TEMPLE,
Marquis of Buckingham;
WHOSE PATRONAGE, AND LIBERAL COMMUNICATIONS,
HAVE TENDED TO IMPROVE AND ENRICH
THIS WORK,
AND THEREBY EXCITED THE MOST LIVELY SENTIMENTS
OF GRATITUDE
IN
HIS OBLIGED AND OBEDIENT HUMBLE SERVANTS,

E. W. BRAYLEY,

AND

J. BRITTON.

London,
November 1st, 1853.



THE
BEAUTIES
OF
England and Wales.

D U R H A M.

DURHAM, as we have already noticed in the description of Cumberland, was included in the country of the **BRIGANTES**, who progressively peopled the vast tract of land extending northwards from the river Don in Yorkshire; and being an “active and spirited tribe,” observes Mr. Whitaker, “seized all the fortresses that guarded the passes of the Yorkshire hills; and had subdued, at the commencement of the Christian era, all the country that lay betwixt the hills and the sea: they appear to have carried their victorious arms to the south and to the north, to have crossed the river of Medway, and the frith of Solway, and to have conquered equally the Selgovæ of Anandale, and the Carnabii of Cheshire.” Tacitus relates, that the nation of the Brigantes were the most populous of the whole province. *Brigantes civitas numerosissima totius provinciæ.**

In the “gradual progression of the Celtæ along the broad base of the triangle which Britain forms, and afterwards across the wide plane to the tapering summit of it, the counties of York and Durham were the first inhabited by the Brigantes.”† Afterwards, on an increase of population, they advanced into the country of the *Sistuntii*, and *Volantii*: these nations being unable to resist the incursions of their Brigantian neighbours, entered into an alliance with them, yet their independence was soon lost: and though Ptolemy places the *Sistuntii* across the Western Ocean, yet he

A 3

describes

* Agrio. Vit. C. 17.

† Or *Highlanders*, see Vol. III. p. 3.

describes the territory belonging to the Brigantes as extending from sea to sea.

On the conquest of Britain by the Romans, Durham was included in the division, *MAXIMA CÆSARIENSIS*: but after the establishment of the Saxons, it became part of the kingdom of Northumberland, with which it remained connected till the union of the Saxon States under Egbert.

This county has not unusually been termed the *Bishopric*, from the great power which the Bishop of the diocese formerly possessed. It is a County Palatine; and appears to have derived its original privileges from the grant made to St. Cuthbert, the Apostle of the North, by Egfrid, King of Northumberland, in the year 685, of all the land between the "rivers Weare and Tyne," to hold in as full and ample manner as the King himself held the same. These privileges, says Camden, were first broken through by Edward the First, whose award, as arbitrator on a dispute between Bishop Anthony Bec and the Prior about their lands, not being executed, "he seized the Bishop's liberties into his own hands, and made strict enquiry, and offered great violence to privilege." Afterwards, however, the See recovered, and held its rights inviolate till the time of Edward the Sixth, to whom all its revenues and privileges were granted by Parliament. Queen Mary re-established the See in its former authority; and, though many of its rights have since been abrogated, it still possesses peculiar immunities and power.

"The Palatine right of the Bishop of Durham is founded on immemorial prescription, there being no record of its being granted by any Princes, before or since the Conquest, wherein it is not supposed to have been granted also by their predecessors. It proceeded at first from a principle of devotion to St. Cuthbert, that whatever lands were given to him, or bought with his money, he should hold with the same freedom that the Princes who gave them held the rest of their estates. But this piety to the Saint was not without its prudential purposes, both for the service of the Crown in its wars against Scotland, and of the county, because of its distance from the courts above. It consisted of all manner of

royal jurisdiction, both civil and military, by land and sea. For the exercise thereof, the Bishops had their proper courts of all sorts held in their name, and by their authority; their Chancery, Exchequer, and Court of Pleas, as well as of the Crown, as of the County; and all other pleas and assizes, certifications whatsoever; and all officers belonging to them, as Chancellors, Justices, High-Sheriff, Coroners, Escheator, and other ministers; as well such as Kings have been wont to have elsewhere in the said kingdom, as such as the said Kings have been wont to depute according to the exigency of emergent cases, or for the special execution of acts of Parliament. Thus by themselves, and their officers, they did justice to all persons in all cases, without the King or any of his officers interfering ordinarily in any thing. The King's writs did not run in this county, but were directed to the Bishop; or, in the vacancy of the See, to the Chancellor of the Palatinate.

“ When Henry the Second sent his Justices of Assize hither, on an extraordinary occasion of murder and robbery, he declared by his Charter, that he did it by licence of the Bishop, and *pro hac vice* only; and that it should not be drawn into custom, either in his time, or in the time of his heirs, not being done but upon absolute necessity; and that he should nevertheless have the land of St. Cuthbert to enjoy its liberties and ancient customs as amply as ever. By virtue of these privileges, there issued out of the Bishop's courts all sorts of writs, original, judicial, and common; writs of proclamation, &c. As all writs went out in his name, he had a register of writs of as much authority as that in the King's courts; and all recognizances entered upon his close rolls in his Chancery, and made to him, or in his name, were as valid in this county, as those made to the King out of it. But now, the Act twenty-seventh Henry the Eighth, for the re-continuing of certain liberties taken from the Crown, directs, that all writs, indictments, and all manner of process in Counties Palatine, shall be made only in the King's name; and since that time all the difference in the style of proceedings in this county from others is, that the *teste* of the writ is in the name of the Bishop, according to the directions of that act. Still he is perpetual Justice of Peace within

his territories, (and can sit only as such,) and is also perpetual Chancellor, because the chief acts of the exempt jurisdiction used to run through his court. All the officers of the courts, even the Judges of Assize themselves, have still their ancient salaries, or something analogous, from the Bishop; and all the standing officers of the courts are constituted by his patents. When he comes in person to any of the courts of judicature, he sits chief in them, those of assize not excepted; and even when judgment of blood is given, though the Canons forbid any clergyman to be present, the Bishops of Durham did, and may, sit in their purple robes on the sentence of death, whence is used to be said, *solum Dunelmense stola jus dicit et ense*.

“All dues, amercements, and forfeited recognizances, in the courts of the Palatinate, and all deodands, belong to the Bishop. If any forfeits are made, either of war, or by treason, outlawry, or felony, even though the soil be the King’s, they fall to the Bishop here, as to the King in other places: and though the first great wound which the Palatinate received, was given on the alienation of Barnard Castle, and Hartlepool, on the forfeitures of Baliol and Bruce, yet the Bishop’s right was declared to them on full hearing; and though the possession of them could not be retrieved, they still resort to the courts of Durham as other parts of the county do.

“Lands were held under the Bishop *perforinsecum servitium*; which is defined by Bracton to be a badge of regal right, and was a service only belonging to the Crown: the tenure *in capite* was common under a subject. The former occurs very often in the records; indeed, all the tenures of land here originate from the Bishop as lord paramount in chief. Hence he grants charters for erecting boroughs and incorporations, markets and fairs, inclosing forests, chaces, and warrens; licences to embattle castles, build chapels, found chantries and hospitals; and dispensations, with the statute of Mortmain. All inclosed estates, as well as moors, or wastes, to which no title can be made, escheat to him. He grants the custody of ideots and lunatics; and had the custody of minors while the custom of wards and liveries subsisted. Besides

sides the dependence of leasehold or copyhold tenants on him, if any freeholders alienated their land without his licence, they were obliged to sue out his patent of pardon; and all money paid for such licences belongs to him.

“ In the article of military power, the Bishop of Durham had anciently his Thanes, and afterwards his Barons, who held of him by Knights’ service, as the rest of the *Haliwerk folk* held of them by inferior tenures. On alarms, he convened them as a Parliament, with advice for them to assist with their persons, dependants, and money, for the public service at home and abroad; and all levies of men and money were made by the Bishop’s commission, or by writs in his name out of the Chancery at Durham: for he had power both to coin money, and levy taxes, and raise and arm soldiers, in the Bishopric, from sixteen to sixty years old. According as he found their strength, he had power to march against the Scots, or to conclude a truce with them. One of the Bishops built a strong castle in his territory, on the border, to defend it against them; though no other person could have done this without his leave, nor the greatest person in the Palatinate embattle his mansion. As the people depended on him in these matters, they were free from every body else: and when the Lord Warden of the Marches would have summoned some of the Bishop’s men to his court, a letter was sent from the King to forbid him, under pain of forfeiting 1000*l*. But now the militia of this county has been long on the same footing with the rest of the kingdom, under the Lord Lieutenant: the only difference here, is, that that office has generally, though not always, been borne by the Bishop.

“ The admiralty jurisdiction in this county belongs also to the Bishop, who holds the proper court by his Judges; and appoints by his patents, a Vice-Admiral, Register, and Marshal, or Water-Bailiff, and other officers; and has all the privileges, forfeitures, and profits, incident to this power, as royal fishes, sea wrecks, duties for ships arriving in his ports, anchorage, beaconage, wharfage, moorage, butterage, ulnage, &c. To him also belongs the conservancy of waters within his district; in pursuance of which, he used to issue commissions for prohibiting, limiting or reducing weirs,

weirs, or other erections in prejudice of his rivers. All ships of war were arrayed within the county Palatine by his commission, and writs to his Sheriff: and when the King issued out writs from his admiralty to the Sheriffs of other maritime counties, he addressed a particular letter to the Bishop here for his concurrence, who gave commissions to his own Sheriff, with express command, that nothing should be done by the King's commissions without him. It is but lately that any instances have been known of the admiralty being separated from the Bishopric, and it is now restored, though with some diminution in the honor.

“The great privileges of this Bishopric in temporal jurisdiction, lead one to imagine that its spiritual immunities were equally extraordinary. After Paulinus departed from York, the Bishops who restored Christianity in Northumberland, placed their See at Lindisfarne, though not with the title of Metropolitan, yet with all the ecclesiastical power that was then in those counties. This occasioned a great veneration for their successors among the Saxons, besides the particular reverence paid to St. Cuthbert. When the See was established at Durham, in the time of the Conqueror, Thomas, the elder Archbishop of York, having been miraculously recovered of a fever at the shrine of the Saint, granted to this Church several immunities relating to jurisdiction, visitations, &c. which being confirmed by the King and Parliament, and the Pope, and by several succeeding Kings, could never be recalled, notwithstanding many struggles and contests.”*

The figure of Durham is triangular: on its eastern side, from the mouth of the river Tees to Tynemouth, it is bounded by the German Ocean: on the north, it is separated from Northumberland, by the rivers Tyne and Derwent, and some artificial boundaries: on the west, it is divided from Cumberland and Westmoreland by the Crook-burn, and the Tees; the latter river forms the whole of its south-east and southern boundary. The greatest extent of the county, from Shields on the north, to Sockburne on the south, is about thirty-six miles; its greatest length, from the peninsula

* Cough's Camden, Vol. III. p. 109.

peninsula of Hartlepool on the east, to the mouth of the Crook-burn on the west, at the point of union of Durham, Cumberland, and Westmoreland, is about forty-five miles; and its circumference is nearly 180. Its superficial area includes about 610,000 acres, containing one city, 120 parishes, ten market-towns, 28,366 houses, and 160,361 inhabitants. It is divided into four *wards*, all deriving their names from places which are now of inferior consideration. The representatives are four, viz. two for the county, and two for the city. Durham pays three parts of the land-tax, and provides 400 men for the militia: the whole county is included within the See.

The general aspect of this county is hilly and mountainous; and particularly the western angle, which is a bleak, naked, and barren region, crossed by the ridge of hills termed the English Apennines; though they do not in this part rise to any considerable height. From the eastern side of this ridge issue numerous streams, which flow towards the sea; and lesser ranges of hills, branching off from this district, spread in various directions over the whole county. The eastern and central parts of Durham include some beautiful and fertile vallies; and are pleasantly varied with hill and dale, alternately appropriated to the growth of corn, and of pasturage.

The soils are various. "Near the river Tees, and in some spots bordering the other rivers and brooks in this county, the soil is loamy, or a rich clay; at a further distance from these rivers and brooks, the soil is of a poorer nature, commonly termed water-shaken, with here and there spots of gravel interspersed; but these are of small extent, the middle of none of them being half a mile from clay. The hills between the sea, and an imaginary line drawn from Barnard Castle on the Tees, to Alans-ford on the Derwent, are for the most part covered with a dry loam, the fertility of which varies in proportion to its depth: from this line westward, the summits as well as the sides of the hills are moorish wastes."*

In

* Granger's General View of the Agriculture of Durham.

In a country possessing such a variety of soil, the produce is of course, proportionably various. The usual rotation of crops is, after summer fallow, wheat, oats, beans, or pease; and occasionally a crop of broad clover, in lieu of the three last. On some few spots of gravelly soil, turnips and barley are grown in almost perpetual succession, a crop of clover being sometimes interposed. The produce of wheat on good land, is from twenty to thirty bushels per acre; in inferior land, from ten to twenty bushels per acre: the produce of barley is from thirty to forty bushels; of oats, from twenty to forty. The manures are chiefly lime, and the produce of the fold-yard; and though abundance of sea-weed might be collected on the sea coast, and, properly applied, would constitute valuable manure, yet the farmers in general neglect, or remain unacquainted with, its use.

The *farms* are principally of a middling size, few of them exceeding 200 acres. The largest portion of each farm is generally appropriated to tillage; but towards the western extremity of the county, the whole is applied to pasture. About one-third of the land is supposed to be of ecclesiastical tenure; the remainder is possessed by various proprietors: the leases seldom exceed six years; and are too frequently rendered of little value by injudicious restrictions. The leases held of the See of Durham are for longer terms; generally for lives, or for twenty-one years, renewable every seven years, on payment of an arbitrary fine. The farm-houses are in general well situated, and commodious; but the fold-yards are too few, and small; and, for want of granaries, the corn is frequently threshed before it is dry. Threshing machines have been lately introduced; and machines for the drill husbandry are used in many parts of the county.

The cattle of Durham are in great repute; as for form, weight, produce of milk, and butter, and quickness of fattening, they are not inferior to any in England. The sheep are mostly large, and covered with long wool: those denominated the Tees-water breed, are most celebrated. In Wear-dale, the breed is small, but the meat finely-flavoured: when fat, the quarters seldom weigh more than from fourteen to eighteen pounds each.

The waste lands are of considerable extent in the western parts of the county, being supposed to occupy nearly 120,000 acres. In the lower parts, many hundred acres have been inclosed, and cultivated, within the last thirty years. The common fields, excepting in the western district, are but few; the lands belonging to townships having been principally inclosed soon after the Restoration. The water-shaken grounds cover a very large proportion of the county: those bordering on the Tees, and other rivers, are drained by means of wide ditches, provincially called *stells*. "In other parts, where springs burst from the sides of the hills, endangering the ground below, oblique cuts are made to intercept the water; and conduits of stone, or brick, laid along the bottom of them to convey it to a main conduit, which carries it down the hill: the earth is then thrown in again, and the surface levelled for the purpose of culture."* Sometimes, in the flat grounds, under-drains are made; and when half filled with pebble stones, are levelled again with earth and turf. The woodlands are not of any considerable extent; and chiefly confined to the parks and seats of the nobility. The banks of the rivers and brooks, however, particularly in the vicinity of Durham, are fringed with wood of long growth, and much value. The public roads are, in general, good; but those belonging to townships, are in many parts extremely narrow, dangerous, and irregular.

"Durham," observes Sir William Appleby, "taking its small dimensions into consideration, is not to be equalled by any other county in Great Britain, except Middlesex, for its numerous and important coal, lead, and iron mines; its large cast metal founderies, and iron-manufactories, potteries, glass-houses, copperas-works, coal-tar and salt-works, quarries of marble, fire and free-stone; lime, brick and tile-kilns; grind-stone, and mill-stone; linen and woollen manufactories; trade, agriculture, and population."†

The MINERALOGICAL substances found in Durham are numerous and valuable. The east and north-east parts of the county are particularly famous for their extensive *coal*-mines; and the

* Granger's General View, p. 45.

† Ibid. p. 45.

the quantity of this important article is so great, as to exceed all calculation. The seams (or *strata*) now worked, are five in number: these extend horizontally for many miles, and are from twenty to one hundred fathoms beneath the surface; each stratum is from three to six or eight feet thick. Below these are several other seams of coal; and many parts of the county, besides those where the pits are situated, abound with this substance. On many of the mines, steam-engines have been erected for raising the coal with greater dispatch, than could be obtained by the use of horses; the expence is also much less. In the great *sea-sale* collieries, many horses are continually kept under ground, for the purpose of drawing the coals to the mouth of the pits: in the *land-sale* collieries, the same kind of work is performed by men or boys.

In the vicinity of Walsingham, a beautiful black-spotted *limestone* is procured, for hearths, chimney-pieces, and other ornaments. This neighbourhood also abounds with fine *mill-stone*. Many excellent quarries of slate for building have been opened in different parts of the county; and Gateshead Fell is peculiarly famous for producing what are vulgarly termed Newcastle *grind-stones*, from being shipped off at that port. *Fire-stone*, of high estimation in the building of ovens, furnaces, &c. is obtained in various parts of Durham, and exported in immense quantities.

The principal *Lead* Mines of Durham are situated in Tees-dale, and Wear-dale: those of the former place are not particularly successful; but the produce of the latter is of more considerable value. The general method of working them is similar to that pursued in the adjacent counties of Cumberland and Westmoreland. Great improvements of late years have been made by introducing waggon-levels, which, at the same time that they carry off the water, save the most fatiguing part of manual labor. The method of smelting the ore in Wear-dale, is by the blast hearth: but in Tees-dale, air furnaces have been introduced with much success.

Several extensive works for manufacturing salt from sea-water have long been established at South Shields; but the produce of these

these works is not at present so considerable as formerly, owing to the discovery of a very singular salt-spring at Birtley, in this county, which has been thus described by Sir William Appleby. "It arises at the depth of seventy fathoms, in an engine-pit constructed for drawing water out of coal-mines, at the extremity of a stone drift, drove 200 yards north-east therein; and what is more extraordinary, springs *only* in such drift in every direction; though the pit, and every other contiguous, has been excavated both above and below it many fathoms. Its mixing with the fresh water in the same pit, would have occasioned it remaining totally unnoticed, but for an accident which happened to the boiler of the engine soon after its erection. One morning the bottom of the boiler suddenly dropt out: the engineer, amazed thereat, informed the undertakers, who, upon examination, found it incrustated with a vast quantity of strong salt, and the iron wholly corroded. Upon tasting the water, though incorporated with immense quantities of fresh, it was found exceedingly brackish and salt, on which the workings were explored, and the above-mentioned very valuable salt spring was discovered to arise in such drift only; and has for these nine years produced 20,000 gallons per day, four times stronger than any sea-water whatever. In consequence of this important discovery, a large and extensive manufactory of salt has been established by a company of gentlemen, who, after encountering many difficulties, have brought it to very great perfection, the quality being most excellent."* At Butterby, near Durham, is another salt-spring, which issues from a rock in the river Weare, and is only visible when the water is low: it contains somewhat more of the sulphate of magnesia, or Epsom salt, than the spring at Birtley.

The manufactures of Durham are numerous and important. The south side of the Tyne is fringed with manufactories and coal staiths. At Swalwell, and Winlaton, are some of the first iron-works in England; and at Lumley is a manufactory for converting scrap-iron into engine-boiler plates, and cast metal into malleable iron.

* Granger's General View, p. 22.

iron. Steel-works have been established at Shotley-bridge, Swallow, Team, and Gateshead. Tammies, carpets, and waistcoat-pieces, are manufactured at Durham: tammies and huckabacks are also made at Darlington; where a machine has been established for spinning flax into yarn; and another for grinding spectacle glasses. Cottons are manufactured at Castle Eden, Stockton, and Bishop's Auckland; and sail-cloths, glass, and other articles, at Stockton, Sunderland, and South Shields.

The principal *Rivers* of Durham, are the Tees, the Weare, and the Derwent. The *Tees* rises in the vast moors which form the district wherein the counties of York, Cumberland, Westmoreland, Durham, and Northumberland, nearly unite. After issuing from the moors, the stream flows south-eastward, through the romantic valley of Tees-dale, for nearly thirty miles, when suddenly turning to the north-east at Sockburne, it falls into the German Ocean at some distance below Stockton. The river, through the whole of its course, assimilates with its external attendants of rocks, moors, and mountains; being broad, shallow, and rapid, frequently ravaging the valley with its inundations, and precipitating itself in vast cataracts. After emerging from the deep dell beneath the Abbey of Egglestone, it flows with rapidity through the rich demesne of Rokeby, below which it receives the Greta from Yorkshire, and another small stream from the moors of Durham. In the highly ornamented territory which surrounds the majestic walls and towers of Raby Castle, it forms a fine feature, and preserves its romantic and striking character through great part of its after progress to the sea.*

The *Weare* derives its waters from the same wild range of moors which produces the Tees; but flowing considerably to the north of that river, it crosses the central part of the county, and falls into the sea near Sunderland. Wear-dale, like Tees-dale, is a very wild and romantic district, and, like that also, is pleasantly interspersed with towns and villages: emerging from its recesses, the river passes Bishop's Auckland, when assuming a north-eastern direction, it flows

* Skrine's History of Rivers in Great Britain.

flows onward to the city of Durham, which it nearly surrounds. Thence passing northward, it runs near the walls of Lumley Castle; but turning suddenly to the south near Birtley, flows towards Sunderland.

The *Derwent* rises northward of the Weare, in the same range of moors, and pursuing nearly a parallel course with that river, gives animation and interest to a wild and mountainous tract on the northern borders of the county, till it falls into the Tyne near Smalwell.

DURHAM.

THE City of Durham is situated on a singular rocky eminence, rising near the central part of the county, and almost surrounded by the river Weare. From all the neighbouring points of view, its appearance is unique, and striking; its public edifices exhibiting a degree of magnificence unexpected at a distance so remote from the Metropolis; and its situation and figure being so peculiar as to have occasioned its being emphatically denominated the *English Zion*. The centre of the eminence is occupied by the Cathedral and Castle, which, with the streets called the Baileys, are included within the remains of the ancient city walls. Below the walls on one side, the slope is ornamented with hanging gardens and plantations, descending to the river; on the other, the acclivity is high, rocky, and steep. The rich meadows, the cultivated sides of the adjacent hills, and the various seats in the vicinity, add greatly to the beauty of the prospect.

Durham* derives its name from its situation, the term being a corruption from the Saxon words *Dur*, a hill; and *Holme*, a river island. By the Latins, observes Camden, it is called *DVNELMVS*; and by the common people, Durham, or Duresme: the

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latter

* In an ancient Saxon Poem, inserted in Hickes's *Gramm. Anglo-Saxon*, and referred by Adelung to the Danish-Saxon period, which this writer fixes between the years 780 and the time of the Conquest, the topography, &c. of Durham, is thus described.

latter appellation is derived, by Bishop Gibson, from the Norman *Duresme*.

The earliest historical notice of this city is contained in the monkish legend of St. Cuthbert, from whose votaries Dunholme,

as

This city is celebrated
 In the whole empire of the Britons.
 The road to it is steep.
 It is surrounded with rocks,
 And with curious plants.
 The Wear flows round it,
 A river of rapid waves ;
 And there live in it,
 Fishes of various kinds
 Mingling with the floods.
 And there grow
 Great forests ;
 There live in the recesses
 Wild animals of many sorts ;
 In the deep valleys
 Deer innumerable.
 There is in this city
 Also well known to men
 The venerable St. Cudberth ;
 And the head of the chaste King
 Oswald, the lion of the Angli ;
 And Aiden, the Bishop ;
 Aedbert and Aedfrid,
 The noble associates.
 There is in it also
 Aethelwold, the Bishop ;
 And the celebrated writer Bede ;
 And the Abbot Boisil,
 By whom the chaste Cudberth
 Was in his youth gratis instructed ;
 Who also well received the instructions.
 There rest with these saints,
 In the inner part of the Minster,
 Relicks innumerable,
 Which perform many miracles,
 As the Chronicles tell us,
 And (which) await with them
 The judgment of the Lord.

as it was then called, accumulated all its celebrity and riches. According to the legend, it appears that the Saint departed this life on the twentieth of the calends of March, 687, and was buried in the Church at Lindisfarne, at that period the See of a Bishop. The body was afterwards inhumed in a new sepulchre on rebuilding the Cathedral, where it lay unmolested for a considerable time.

But in the year 876, Halfden, having brought over a reinforcement of Danish adventurers, ravaged this part of the country in a most inhuman manner; and Eardulf, then Bishop of Lindisfarne, having remarked the savage practices of the invaders, particularly to the clergy, consulted with Eadred, the Abbot, and the other members of the monastery, what measures they should pursue for common safety; when several joined the Bishop and Abbot in a resolution, not only to quit the place, the peculiar sanctity of which among Christians only excited proportionable cruelty in the Danish Pagans, but also to remove the remains of their beloved Saint, that his relics might not be exposed to the rude insults of the profane. In pursuance of this resolve, they gathered the holy relics, sacred vessels, ornaments and jewels of the altars and shrines, together with St. Ethelwold's stone crucifix, and fled from the Island of Lindisfarne, where the episcopal See had continued 241 years.

"With their holy charge, the Bishop and his company passed into the mountainous parts of the country, still changing their abode, as intelligence of the enemy's progress seemed to threaten their safety. Their pious ardor must have been equal to any toil, and superior to every danger, encumbered as they were with the remains of St. Cuthbert; the head of St. Oswald; the bones of Saints Aidan, Eadbert, Eanfred, and Ethelwold, inclosed in one ark or shrine; and the ponderous cross of St. Ethelwold borne before them."*

B 2

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* Ethelwold was Abbot of Melross, the intimate friend of St. Cuthbert, and one of his successors in the Bishoprick. He caused a ponderous cross of stone to be erected in the ground adjoining the Church of Lindisfarne. The socket,

On the removal of St. Cuthbert's relics, the inhabitants of Lindisfarne left their lands and goods, and followed the Bishop and his train, who, wearied with travelling, endeavored privately to depart to Ireland, that they might deposit the Saint's bones in greater safety: but a sudden storm arose, and the ship wherein they had commenced their voyage, was driven back, and forced upon the shore; the tempest being so strong, that *three waves were miraculously converted into blood*; and the ship heeled so much, that the Book of the Holy Evangelists, which was curiously written, and adorned with gold and precious stones, fell out of the vessel, and sunk to the bottom of the sea. In the midst of their perplexity, St. Cuthbert, unwilling to see his devotees in such sorrow, appeared to Hundredus, one of the monks, and commanded that the book might be sought for on the neighbouring coasts. At three miles distance it was recovered; and, so far from being injured by the salt-water, that it appeared more beautiful than before. Gladly did the company receive back this precious memorial: but the patron Saint being in a good humor, was determined not to oblige them by halves: a bridle appeared upon a tree, and a horse prancing to receive it, for the purpose of carrying the relics, gave a joy inexpressible to the wearied travellers. This horse conducted the chest to Crake-Minster, and here it rested four months; thence it was taken to Cuneagester, (now Chester-le-street,) and rested during the Danish wars, being a period of forty-three years; at the end of which, Aidune, the last Bishop of Chester-le-street, upon the Danes again infesting the northern coast, removed the relics to Ripon. In an interval of peace, the holy community intending to return, left Ripon, with all their paraphernalia, after an abode of four months. In
their

or foot-stone, in which it was mortised, remains still a few paces to the east of the ruined church. It was held in such veneration, that, after being broken by the Danes, in their first descent on the Island, the scattered parts were carefully put together, by skillful workmen, with lead and cement. This is now called *The Petting Stone*; and whenever a marriage is solemnized at the church, after the ceremony, the bride is to step upon it, and if she cannot stride to the end, it is said that the marriage will prove unsuccessful. *Hutchinson's Durham, Vol. I, p. 33.*

their progress, another miracle happened: the holy relics would not move forward: this was at a place then called Wrðelau. At last, after much fasting and prayer, and the assistance of an old woman and her cow, Dunholme, “a place strong by nature, but not easily rendered habitable, as it was overgrown by a thick forest, in the midst of which was a small plain, which had been used in tillage,” was the place fixed on for the lasting abode of St. Cuthbert’s relics, and the further establishment of his holy fraternity.

The first work in which the pious laborers engaged, was to erect a wicker tabernacle, as a reliquary for their sacred deposit; this was denominated the *Bough Church*; but such a situation not suiting the wishes of the devout, another temple, called *White Church*, was constructed in the year 995, also of wicker, Symeon Dunelmensis says, *facta citissime de Virgis ecclesiola*. But it does not appear that the poor wanderers erected for themselves any habitations on the Mount for a considerable time after their coming to Dunholme; “for we are told, in the course of three years from the date of the first tabernacle, that a church of stonework was begun, and dedicated by Bishop Aldun, wherein the Saint’s remains were deposited. According to the course of events exhibited by the ancient writers, it was not till after the foundation of Aldun’s Church was laid, that the forest by which it was surrounded was cut down, and the skirts of the hill rendered fit for habitation. Much labour was expended; and all the inhabitants between the rivers Coquet and Tees, to the extent of fifty miles, are said to have been employed at the command of Uthred, Earl of Northumberland. From the above circumstances, we are led to date the rise of the town of Durham in the opening of the eleventh century.”*

Durham seems to have been sufficiently fortified when Duncan, King of Scotland, attacked it in 1040; for the townsmen sustained the enemy’s assaults for a considerable time; and at length, by means of a vigorous sally, totally routed the assailants, and

B 3

beheaded

* Hutchinson’s Durham, Vol II. p 5.

beheaded the leaders, which were their prisoners, in the market-place.

William I. in the year 1069, sent Robert Cumin, whom he had created Earl of Northumberland, and 700 veteran Norman soldiers, to Durham, to enforce his authority; but these warriors degrading themselves into freebooters, committed many enormities, and reduced the inhabitants to the extremest despair. In this temper, they formed associations, which coming to the Bishop's knowledge, he acquainted Earl Cumin of his apprehensions of an insurrection. The Earl treated the Bishop's caution with contempt; and, agreeably to the Monarch's writ, Cumin proscribed and murdered several of the landholders. The death of the peasants acted as a summon to unsheath the sword; and though this was in the severe season of February, at the decline of day, the town was girt round with multitudes of armed men. "The Earl's guards had taken forcible possession of the houses, as their wantonness incited; and being dispersed through the town, in contempt of danger, gave themselves up to ease and enjoyment. Just at the dawn of day, the assailants broke open all the gates of the town, and flying in parties through every street, made a dreadful slaughter of the Normans; insomuch, that, Symeon says, the streets were filled with blood and carcasses. Many were shut up in the house where the Earl lodged, and defending it bravely, the enraged populace could not force an entrance; therefore throwing in firebrands, they set the edifice in flames. When those within saw the imminent peril to which they were reduced, they forced open the doors, and attempted to escape the fury of the fire, but were slain as they came out. At length the building was reduced to ashes, with every thing within its walls. The fire was so vehement, that the flames were seen to take hold of the western tower of the Church. This afflicting circumstance alarmed the multitude: the religious inhabitants of the city, and even those in arms, ceasing from slaughter, fell upon their knees, with eyes filled with tears, and elevated hands, petitioning heaven, that, by the assistance of their holy Saint, and through his interposition, the sacred edifice might be spared from destruction. Quickly the wind shifted,

shifted, and bore the flames from the Church. Thus the Earl, on the second of the Cal. of February, A. D. 1069, with his 700 guards, (one man excepted, who escaped with his wounds,) were put to death.* William, determined on revenge for Cumin's death, detached a party of his troops to scour the country; but they had not proceeded farther than Alverton, when a thick fog surrounded them; so that, instead of pursuing their journey, they could scarcely see each other: this operating upon superstitious minds, and adding to the reports of St. Cuthbert's miracles, so alarmed them, that they returned with precipitation, lest they should incur the Saint's execration. But William was not to be so intimidated: he marched forward, and indulged the malignity of his heart in the spoil and blood of his subjects, and desolated the country in such a manner, that, "for sixty miles, between York and Durham, he did not leave a house standing; reducing the whole district, by fire and sword, to a horrible desert, smoking with blood, and in ashes."† Churches and monasteries were not spared; and it is impossible to describe the miseries in consequence of this wanton act of cruelty. A dreadful famine ensued; and a mortality, unequalled in the annals of this country. The people were reduced to eat the flesh of horses, dogs, and cats, and at last human carcasses. The lands lay untilld for nine years, infested by robbers and beasts of prey; and the poor remnant of the inhabitants spared from the sword, died, overwhelmed with want and misery, in the fields. "Hoveden relates, that, on the tyrant's approach to Durham, he found the town evacuated, the ecclesiastics fled, and the Church left without a minister to perform any sacred office. The King's army being dispersed in destructive parties over the country between the Tyne and the Wear, beheld the villages deserted, the whole country a dismal waste; and the inhabitants, with their flocks and other property, fled into the most secret recesses of the forests and mountains. But, not moved to compassion by a scene so truly wretched, the barbarians set fire to the monastery of Jarrow, and made rejoicings over its ashes."‡

B 4

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* Hutchinson's Durham, Vol. II. 103. Symeon Dun.—Lcl. Col. V. II. p. 380.

† Hutchinson's Durham, Vol. II.

‡ Ibid.

These calamities induced another disturbance of St. Cuthbert's bones, which had now reposed for seventy-five years. The Bishop, with the concurrence of the principal inhabitants, removed them to Lindisfarne; where another miracle is reported to have occurred. "On the fourth day, in the evening, the Bishop, with a vast concourse of people, arrived on the shore opposite to the Holy Island, when they found the sea at high-water. The severity of the winter rendered the night air intolerable to the aged as well as the tender, and caused great lamentation; when, by a particular interposition, the sea retired, and left a dry passage for the poor wanderers, who, with loud thanksgiving, and holy joy, passed over to the Island. But what completed the miracle, was, as Symeon asserts, those who carried the Saint's remains, gave evidence, that, as soon as the multitude had passed, the sea returned, and closed up the vacancy, which a few moments before had divided the water."*

On

* Symeon Dunelmensis, p. 194, relates, "that the King, whilst he abode in Durham, entertaining a doubt of the incorruptible state of St. Cuthbert's body, enquired diligently concerning it; and, notwithstanding the asseverations of several of the most pious and venerable men there, he still pretended to disbelieve it, and insisted on having an inspection of the sepulchre himself. Several Bishops and Abbots then present assented to his will, and thought it proper the King's pleasure should be complied with. Whether provoked by the delay, or his suspicion of fraud was increased by the reluctance of the ecclesiastics to comply with his desire, is not pointed out; but the King solemnly vowed, if he was deceived in the relations he had heard, if the incorruptibility of the Saint's remains was merely a tale to work upon the superstition of the vulgar, and the body was not found in the state represented to him, he would put to death all those of superior rank throughout the city, who had presumed to impose on him. A terror fell on such as heard his menaces, and they devoutly implored the mercy of God, through the merits of the blessed St. Cuthbert, whilst the Bishop, whom, the King had appointed, performed the service of high mass. The King, determined to satisfy his curiosity immediately after the ceremony, commanded the officers of the Church to open the sepulchre; and whilst he stood by, he found himself smitten on a sudden with a burning fever, which distracted him in an intolerable manner. Seized with such anguish and disease, he rushed out of the Church, leaving untasted a sumptuous banquet, which the ecclesiastics had prepared for him; and instantly mounting

On the restoration of tranquillity, and the King's departure, the Bishop, and his companions in affliction, returned to their desolated country, after an absence of four months, and replaced the sacred remains of St. Cuthbert in his shrine. In their flight they had left a rich and massy crucifix, formerly given by Earl Tosti and his wife, in the hope that common veneration might preserve it inviolable; but the crucifix was thrown down by the Normans, and stripped of all its ornaments of gold, silver, and jewellery. On the partition of lands by the Conqueror, the Church of Durham suffered its share of peculation; but the Bishop having secured the most valuable articles of the treasury, retired to Ely, and joined the English who were there in arms against the King. Soon afterwards, by the treachery of the Abbot, whom he thought his friend, he was delivered to the Sovereign, who confined him in prison, where he died miserably; and the See continued vacant about a year, when Walcher, a person of noble birth, from Lorrain, was appointed Bishop.

On William's return from his expedition against Malcolm, King of Scotland, he considered that Durham was a proper barrier against the Scottish incursions; and resolved to erect a *Castle* here, which might serve also to awe the neighbourhood; or, as he explained it, "to secure his Earl of that province from tumults and insurrections, *as also to protect the Bishop of the See and his Church.*"

After the defection of Waltheof, Earl of Northumberland, and his consequent execution at Winchester, Bishop Walcher purchased of the King, the earldom of Northumberland. This being the first instance of the ecclesiastical and temporal power of the See being vested in one person, excited the utmost malevolence in the people. They looked with abhorrence on a prelate, who, unlike
their

mounting his horse, he fled from the city with the utmost haste, never abating the speed of his courser, till he arrived on the banks of the Tees. An indication of preternatural interference, at such a time, overawed the people, and greatly contributed to the veneration paid to the Saint's shrine." Tradition says, that the King, in his hurry, took his way down the narrow street called King's Gate, leading to the Bailey, and now called Dun-Cow-Lane.

their patron, St. Cuthbert, subverted the mild mandates of Christianity, by a union of temporal severity; and from their abhorrence of his latter character, lost all reverence of his episcopal office: at length an act of injustice, to which he does not appear to have been privy, but which he did not exert his authority to punish, raised such an insurrection in his territory, as was only allayed by his murder in the most savage and cruel manner.*

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* The circumstances are thus related : Symeon says, “ that the Bishop was a man of moral life, and, for virtue and good manners, worthy the affection of the best of men; but it is certain, from every authority, that he delegated his power to unworthy ministers and favorites; that Leofwin, his archdeacon, purloined the treasure of the Church in favor of his; and that Gilbert, his kinsman, to whom the care of the earldom had been delegated, had suffered his soldiers not only to oppress the common people in various ways, but to insult, rob, and immolate those of higher rank. A Saxon nobleman, named Liulph, eminent for his personal virtues, possessions, and great alliance, (he having married Alghitha, sister of Elfleda, wife of Earl Siward, and mother of Waltheof, the late Earl,) was in great favour with the Bishop, being frequently at his council, and at his table. When Gilbert afflicted the province by frequent rapine and oppression, it was conceived, his evil actions were supported by the connivance of the Bishop. Amidst the indiscriminate depredations of the deputy, Liulph’s estates suffered part of the marks of the despoiler’s hand, on which he applied to the Bishop, with remonstrances against his *vice-comes* and archdeacon. The jealousy and resentment of the Norman favorites thenceforth were grievously excited; and Leofwin thinking himself particularly affronted by Liulph’s repeated charges to the Bishop, solicited his coadjutor Gilbert to murder him. This, from an equal spirit of resentment, the deputy readily undertook; and besetting the house in the night-time, inhumanly butchered Liulph, and the greatest part of his family. This act of violence increased the tumult of the Northumbrians, by whom Liulph was greatly revered and beloved; and they anxiously waited a proper opportunity to revenge the horrid massacre of this illustrious and innocent family. It was in vain for the Bishop to attempt appeasing the inflamed populace, by the most solemn asseverations of his innocence, and detestation of the crime. He did not bring the perpetrators to justice, notwithstanding the anger which he expressed against the offence; but, negligent of the rights of the injured, he suffered the guilty persons still to go at large, and execute the high offices they held; which appearances determined the judgment of the people, that the crimes were perpetrated by his connivance, and with his privity. It is probable he might not be anxious

to

The King, highly incensed, sent his brother Odo, Bishop of Baieux, into the North, with orders to punish the insurgents, and to take vengeance for the massacre of the Bishop and his retinue. Odo performed his task not as a Bishop, but as a Norman soldier, (he being at that time Earl of Kent,) and made Durham feel the extent of his power, by robbery, desolation, and murder. He stained his sacred vesture by the innocent blood of the relations of the rebellious: he robbed the church of Durham of a rich pastoral staff, which he pretended was taken by the soldiery; and reduced the province to a solitary desert.

About this time the Domesday Book was made; and as Durham does not occur in it, a supposition arises, that the county was so wasted, as not to be worth the expence of a survey. Malcolm, King of Scotland, now entered the county, to revenge on Odo, the enormities he had committed; but William, sending his eldest son,

to relax any part of the severities of his government, thinking he should thereby bring the Northumbrians earlier to submission.

Not long after the foregoing transaction, the Bishop, in exercise of his civil jurisdiction, held a public assembly of his council and ministers at Gateshead, whither the suitors repaired. To this place he had come without a sufficient guard to secure him from injury, depending on the veneration hitherto paid to the sacredness of his office. The appearance of the populace, however, immediately indicated their disposition for mischief; they were not to be restrained, were insolent and refractory. The Bishop was at length alarmed for his safety, when it was too late to procure succour. He caused his officers to assure the people, that part of the business of the assembly was to make restitution to the relations of the deceased. The rage of the populace increased to such a height, that he offered to bring Leofwin to trial, that the law might determine his fate. But the mob, tumultuous and inflamed, refused to submit to the common forms of justice. The Bishop perceived it was too late to appease them; their ferocity of temper displayed a total contempt of his official authority as Earl, or of sanctity as Bishop; they beset the house with a clamour which struck the whole assembly with terror; and, on a watch-word being pronounced from every quarter, which some of the monastic authors have recorded, "*Short red, good red, slea ye the Bishoppe.*" Implying, *Short riddance, good riddance*, &c. They discovered their arms, which hitherto were concealed under their garments. The few guards the Bishop brought with him, dreading no mischief, on their arrival,

son, Robert, against Malcolm, a scene of warfare commenced, highly obnoxious to humanity; but congenial to the rude period wherein it was transacted.

William de Carilepho, the next Bishop, in 1080, was among the malecontents on the accession of William Rufus, and flying into Normandy, his temporalities were seized into the hands of the Crown. John de Tailbois, and Ernesius de Burone, were made governors of the Castle and Palatinate; and it was not till the year 1091 that the Bishop was restored. Soon after the resumption of his dignity, "he granted to the convent, Elvet, in the order of a borough, where the monks should have forty merchants' houses, or tradesmen's shops, distinct and separate from the Bishop's borough

arrival, dispersed themselves, and were reposing in a careless manner: such were surrounded, and put to the sword. The Bishop privately retreated to the church, whither he summoned a few of the chief men of each party, to propose terms of amity and satisfaction. Those who conceived they could influence the mob, went out to appease them; but, without respect of persons, many were slain. The Bishop then commanded Gilbert to go forth, and endeavor to reconcile their wrath; but he was an immediate victim to their vengeance. Some of the rioters now set fire to the church, whilst others guarded the door, and put every one to death that attempted to depart. Those that remained within, no longer able to endure the force of the flames, rushed out, and were instantly slain. The last of the assembly was the venerable Prelate; his heart overwhelmed with affliction for the death of his people. Whilst his benevolence lamented their unhappy deaths, he was denied all the feelings his own approaching fate might have inspired in more generous bosoms; for he could not hope that his life would be spared by the savage and mad multitude. Between the impending evils, for a moment, he was indeterminate what death he should die. The fire urged him to the sword of the enemy; the enemy drove him back to the flames. At length no time was left to irresolution. The fire blazed all round him. Putting up a short prayer to Heaven, he advanced towards the howling and clamorous multitude. With one hand he made a fruitless signal to command silence; with the other, he sanctified himself with the sign of the cross; and folding himself in his robe, he veiled his face, and was instantly pierced to the heart with a lance; and his body was afterwards inhumanly mangled. This catastrophe happened on the fourteenth of May, 1080; the Bishop having held the See nine years and ten months. The leader of the riot was Eadulf, surnamed Rus, great grandson of Earl Uchtred, and consequently of affinity with Liulph. *Hutchinson's Durham, Vol. I. p. 130.*

rough of Durham, that they might trade there, freed from duties payable to the Bishop and his successors. Though we have no previous account of the *borough of Durham*, yet, by inference, we may determine, that such borough existed, with exclusive privileges, even till the institution of the borough of Elvet held an entire trade. How this diminution was relished, or how the new borough supported its authority, we are not informed.”*

Durham sustained great injury by fire in the time of Bishop Flambard, whilst the temporalities were in the hands of the Crown, in consequence of his flight to Robert, Duke of Normandy. This Bishop, to ingratiate himself at Court, oppressed the bishopric with taxes, but without success, King Henry having an invincible hatred to the principles of the Prelate. In 1112, the Bishop founded the hospital of Kepier, which he dedicated to St. Egidius, or Giles, and amply endowed it: after his restoration to the See, he improved the fortifications, by extending the walls between the Cathedral and Castle, removing the houses on the area between those edifices, and levelling the ground; fortified the Castle with a moat, improved the banks of the river, and built Framwell-gate Bridge.

When Stephen usurped the Crown, David, King of Scotland, having taken an oath on behalf of his niece Matilda, daughter of Henry the First, levied an army, and took possession of several fortresses in Northumberland. On this occasion Stephen came to Durham, concluded a peace, which not being lasting, the country again experienced all the horrors of war. The King of Scotland, after committing the grossest enormities, advanced to the neighbourhood of the city; but here his army, composed of the refuse of the surrounding nations, proving seditious, he was compelled to retreat; taking, in his way, the Bishop's Castle of Northam, on the banks of the Tweed. By the interposition of Alberic, Bishop of Ostia, and legate from the Holy See, a peace was established between the two nations; and the city of Durham was honored with the presence of the members of this Convention, in April, 1139; Maud, Queen of England, with many southern Barons,

* Hutchinson's Durham, Vol. II. p. 8.

Barons, on the part of the English Crown; and Prince Henry, with several Scottish Barons, on the part of David. About this period a *coinage* was established at Durham.

The Bishop, Galfrid Rufus, is not said to have taken any active part during these troubles; he seems rather to have occupied his time more agreeably to his character, in the ornament and defence of his See. During the Prelate's last illness, his chaplain, William Cumin, gained the confidence of his household, and particularly such as had the custody of the castle, who entered into a confederacy to deliver up to him the palace and tower, immediately upon the Bishop's decease. Having obtained also the assistance of the King of Scotland, to whom he styled himself Chancellor, he induced the people to submit to his authority, which, by means of the most iniquitous methods, he endeavored to establish; but being foiled in his measures, he resorted to the sword. After desolating the country, his soldiers reduced the Hospital and Church of St. Giles, with the whole village, to ashes; and having burnt a part of the borough of Elvet, the Earl of Northumberland, with whom the Bishop, William de St. Barbara, was in league, completed the destruction, by burning the remainder of the borough.

After Henry the Second succeeded, he had a dispute with Bishop Pudsey; and, during his displeasure, took possession of the castle and city of Durham, and on various pretexts, deprived the Bishop of the custody of so strong a post.* This Bishop granted to the burgesses, that they should be for ever exempt from the customs called *in-toll* and *out-toll*, and from *marchets* and *heriots*; and to have the like free customs as Newcastle.

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* It was a custom for the burgesses, on the demise of a Prelate, to deposite the keys of the city-gates at the shrine of St. Cuthbert. On the death of Bishop Pudsey, the officers of the Crown, who had seized the temporalities, took violent possession of the keys, contrary to the ancient usage. As the election of a Prelate was studiously delayed, and much oppression happened during the vacancy of the See, under the influence of the Crown officers, and as a creature of the King's succeeded, it is not to be wondered, that we hear no further than the mere mention of this infringement of the privileges of the convent. *Lut. chinson's Durham, Vol. II. p. 8.*

This charter he got confirmed by Pope Alexander the Third, when he assisted, with three other English Bishops, at the council of Latuan, A. D. 1176." He also took great pains, besides his elegant additions to the cathedral, to ornament the city by several public structures: he built Elvet Bridge, and rebuilt the borough of that name, which had been destroyed by Cumin and his adherents: he constructed the city wall from the Gaol-Gate to the Water-Gate, part of which is still remaining; and re-edified the castle, which had been destroyed by fire: the *Boldon Buke*, now remaining in the auditor's office, was compiled by his order, and has been admitted as evidence in all cases, to ascertain the ecclesiastical property of the Diocese.

The Castle seems to have remained in the Crown; for when Henry the Third granted his consent to the election of Richard Poore, Bishop of Sarum, to this See, he excepted the possession of the Castles of Durham and Norham. This pious and learned Prelate, by an agreement with the convent, made several regulations concerning the privileges of the two boroughs of Durham and Elvet, with respect to civil authority, weights, measures, &c. In the reign of Henry the Third, it appears, that Durham had a royal and palatinate mintage within itself, which Edward the First, on his accession to the Crown, made a point of reforming.

After the death of Robert de Insula, Bishop of the See from 1274 to 1283, William Wickwane, Archbishop of York, during the vacancy, attempted to harrass the convent by visitorial pretensions, which he carried to such a height of arrogance, as to scandalize his office and character. On his arrival at the city, the eighth of July, to exercise his supposed right of visitation, the cathedral doors were shut against him; and he proceeded to the Church of St. Nicholas, to pronounce excommunication against the Prior and his brethren; but some youths of the city having intelligence of his proceedings, resorted to the church, and opposed him in so clamorous and violent a manner, that the Archbishop, in terror, receded from his purpose, and was put in such apprehension for his person, that, escaping from the pulpit, he fled down the stairs which led to the schools, and used every expedi-

tion, till he got to the river side near Kypier. The Archbishop carried his resentment so far, that, at the consecration of Bishop Beck, on the ninth of January following, he obliged the Prior to leave York Cathedral; and enjoined the new Bishop, upon his declaration of canonical obedience, to excommunicate the Prior, and the heads of the convent: but Beck refused; observing, "I was consecrated their Bishop yesterday, and shall I excommunicate them to day? No profession of obedience shall induce me to so inconsistent an act."

On Bruce's incursion, in the reign of Edward the Second, a party of his army surprised the suburbs of Durham whilst the inhabitants were in their beds, and reduced them to ashes.

This city exhibited a singular scene of festivity on the promotion of Richard de Bury, or Aungerville, to the Bishopric in 1333. He entertained, on this occasion, in the great hall of his palace, Edward the Third, and his Queen, the Queen Dowager, King of Scotland, the two Metropolitans, and five Bishops, seven Earls and their ladies, all the Nobility north of Trent, with a vast concourse of Knights, Abbots, Priors, &c. It was in this year that Edward gained the famous battle of Hallidown Hill. This Monarch again visited the city in 1356, and issued summonses for the military tenants to attend him, previously to the siege and surrender of Berwick.

Bishop Hatfield, successor to De Bury, was a great benefactor to the church and city. In 1377, he granted a toll on certain merchandize brought to Durham, to defray the charges of paving, and repairing the city walls. Letters patent were likewise granted by him "to William de Elmedon, gaoler and porter of the Castle, with certain profits annexed to the office, among which are fees for sealing the measures to be used in the city.

In the third year of the reign of Henry the Sixth, Durham again became a scene of festivity, on the marriage of James, King of Scotland, with Jane of Somerset, grand-daughter of John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster, as well as James's cousin, in 1424. In March, this year, the royal pair arrived, attended by a number of the English nobility of the first rank, and were met by a vast train

train of the most illustrious personages from Scotland. The King and Queen staid here till the beginning of April.

On the anniversary of the installation of Bishop Fox, July 23d. 1503, he entertained, in his palace at Durham, the Princess Margaret, daughter of Henry the Seventh, who was on her progress into Scotland, to espouse King James. John Young, Somerset Herald, who attended the Princess, has related, among other circumstances, the particulars of her reception in this city: "The xxth day of the said monneth the Quene departed from Darnton in fayr aray, and with the precedente companye went to the towne of Durham. A mylle out of the said towne, cam before hyr Syr Richard Stanley and my lady his wyffe, accompanyd of gentylmen and gentylwomen vary well appoynted, hys folks arayed in hys liveray, to the nombre of l. horsys, well mounted.

"Then the Quene prepared herselfe to enter into the said towne, and every ychon in lyk wys, in fayr aray, and rychly, after the manere acostomed. In specyall the Erle of Northumberland ware on a goodly gowne of tynsill fourred with hermynes. He was mounted upon a fayr courser, hys harnays of goldsmyth warke, and through that sam was sawen small bells that maid a mellodious noyse, without sparing gambads. Hys gentylmen of honor and hys company wer well appoynted.

"At the intryng of the said towne, and within, in the streytts and in the wyndowes, was so innumerable people, that it was a fayr thing for to se. And in fayr ordre she was conveyd to the church, the officers of armes, sergeants of armes, trompetts, and mynstrells going before hyr.

"At the gatt of the church was my lord the Byschop of the sayd place, and my lord the Prior, revested in pontificalls, with the convent all revested of ryches coppe, in processyon, with the crossys. And ther was apoynted a place for to kisse them.

"Then the sayd processyon departed in ordre, and all the noblesse in lyke wys, to the Church, in whiche way to the fount was a ryche awter, adorned of ryches, jwells, and precyowse relikes, the wiche the said Byschop delivered to the said Quene to kisse: and by the Erle of Surrey was, gyffyn hyr offrynge. After this

sche was noble conveyd to the castell, wher hyr lodging was prepared and drest honestly. And every ychon retourned agayn to hys repayre.

“The xxist, xxiid, and xxiiid days of the said monneth sche sejournd in the said place of Durham, wher sche was well cheryscht, and hyr costs borne by the said Byschop; who on the xxiiid day held holle hall, and dowble dynner and dowble souper to all commers worthy for to be ther. And in the said hall was set all the noblesse, as well spiritualls as temporalls, grett and small, the wiche was welcome; for this was hys day of installacyon.

“The xxiiiith day of the said monneth the Qwene departed from Durham, accompanied of hyr noble company, as she had beene in the days past, in fayr manere and good ordre, for to come to the towne of the New-Castele.”

The suppression of the rebellion of the Nevilles', in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, occasioned a scene of horror in Durham; not fewer than sixty-six persons being executed to satisfy the brutality of Sir George Bowes, who boasted, that in a tract of country, sixty miles in length, and forty in breadth, betwixt Newcastle and Wetherby, there was scarcely a town or village wherein he had not sacrificed some of the inhabitants!

In the years 1416 and 1589, Durham was visited by that dreadful scourge, the plague, which raged for a considerable time. In 1597, it again returned, with such violence, that the poorer inhabitants were compelled to live in huts on Elvet Moor, and the adjoining commons, where the marks of arrangement of the cells were to be traced till very lately.

In the year 1633, Charles the First resided at Durham, on his progress to Scotland, and was entertained by the amiable and pious Bishop Morton, whose expences in one day amounted to 1500*l*. The virtuous life, and extensive charities, of this learned, compassionate and persecuted Bishop, are still remembered with respect and gratitude. After a variety of sufferings, and unjust accusations, by the Parliament adherents, during the Civil Wars, he found an asylum in the family of Sir Christopher Yelverton, his political enemy, to whose son he became tutor.

During the time of the Commonwealth and Protectorate, an attempt was made to establish a University at Durham; the particulars concerning which have been thus related by Mr. Pennant. "On the thirteenth of April, 1649, the Parliament passed an act for abolishing of Deans, Deans and Chapters, Canons, Prebends, and all other titles and offices of or belonging to any Cathedral or Collegiate Church, or Chapel, within England and Wales; and the name and function of Dean, Sub-Dean, Chapter, &c. are thereby taken away; and all their honors, manors, lands, &c. together with their charters, deeds, books, court-rolls, &c. adjudged and taken to be in the real and actual possession and seizure of Trustees, therein named, in trust, to be disposed of by Parliament.

"May the seventh, 1650, a petition was presented to the Parliament, from the gentlemen, freeholders, and inhabitants of the county of Durham, praying, that 'an establishment of Courts of Justice might be had there; and that the College or Houses of the Dean and Chapter, being then empty, and in decay, might be employed in erecting a College, School, or Academy, for the benefit of the Northern Counties, which were so far from the Universities; and that part of the Lands of the said Dean and Chapter near the city, might be set out by Trustees for pious uses.'

"Besides this petition, others of a similar kind were sent from the county of Northumberland, and from the town and county of Newcastle upon Tyne; which were referred to a Committee, to state the business, and to report their opinions touching the desires of the county. The Committee reported, 'that they so far approved thereof, as that they were of opinion, that the said Houses were a fit place to erect a College, or School, for all the sciences and literature; and that it would be a pious and laudable work, and of great use to the northern parts.'

"In 1656, an order was made, by Oliver Cromwell, the Lord Protector, and his Privy Council, for founding and endowing a College at Durham, out of the Dean and Chapter's Lands there. Of this scheme Oliver had been a strenuous promoter, as appears by a letter of his yet extant, dated March the 11th, 1650, ad-

dressed to William Lenthall, the Speaker, in which he greatly and earnestly recommends the prosecution of the business to him.

“ The Letters Patent for founding the College, are dated May the 15th, 1657, by which the Houses late belonging to the Dean and Prebendaries, are converted into a University, to be called by the name of ‘ the Mentor, or Provost, Fellows, and Scholars, of the College of Durham, of the Foundation of Oliver, Lord Protector of the Commonwealth of England, Scotland, and Ireland, &c.’ By the same Letters Patent, rent charges, to the annual amount of 900*l.* were assigned for the support of the persons belonging to the foundation; and leave was also given them to purchase and enjoy lands and revenues to the amount of 6000*l.* a year; and to take and use all the manuscripts, library books, and other books and mathematical instruments, and all other instruments whatsoever, late belonging to the Dean and Chapter, &c.*

“ Scarcely was the new University settled, when Oliver died; and, that they might not be wanting in gratitude to the memory of their benefactor, they presented an address to Richard, immediately after his accession, in which they compared Oliver to Augustus, and gave him the prowess of Henry the Fifth, the prudence of Henry the Seventh, and the piety of Edward the Sixth; and recommended to the vital beams of the piteous aspect of the son, his new erection, an orphan scarce bound up in its swaddling clothes.

“ The new University soon began to thrive so much as to excite the jealousy of her sisters of Oxford and Cambridge, who both presented petitions against it to the new Protector, and sent some persons from both places to give reasons against a *third* University, and especially against conferring any degrees there. But in a short time after, Richard, being deprived of the Protectorate, the ill-pieced machine of government fell to pieces, and involved in its ruins this new seminary of learning.”

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* The original charter is yet in the Dean and Chapter's library, beautifully written on vellum, and adorned with Oliver's picture and arms, and several emblematical designs.

It is a singular fact, observes Brand, in his History of Newcastle, that George Fox, the founder of the Quakers, has assumed to himself the consequence, and, what he thought, the merit, of having been the means of suppressing this laudable institution.*

The present magnificent CATHEDRAL of Durham is indebted for its origin to Bishop, William de Carilepho, who, having projected a change in the government of this Church, which had hitherto been directed by the secular clergy, and their Provost, obtained under the authority of the Crown, and by permission of the Pope, a license to introduce regular canons. Conceiving also, that the Church built by his predecessors was unsuitable to the dignity and increasing power of the See, he formed a plan for erecting a structure similar to the superb fabrics he had seen during his exile on the Continent. In pursuance of this design, the foundation was laid on the Eleventh of August, 1093, with a solemnity suitable to so vast an undertaking; Malcolm, King of Scotland, and Turgot, Abbot of Durham, assisting at the ceremony.

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* The account given by Fox of this event is as follows "We came to Durham, where was a man come down from London, to set up a College there, to make ministers of Christ, as they said. I went with some others to reason with the man, and to let him see, that to teach men Hebrew, Greek, and Latin, and the seven arts, which was all but the teachings of the natural man, was not the way for to make them ministers of Christ; for the languages began at Babel: and to the Greeks, that spoke Greek as their mother-tongue, the cross of Christ was foolishness; and to the Jews, that spake Hebrew as their mother-tongue, Christ was a stumbling-block; and as for the Romans, who had the Latin and Italian, they persecuted the Christians; and Pilate, one of the Romans, set Hebrew, Greek, and Latin, a-top of Christ when he crucified him; and John the Divine, who preached the word that was in the beginning, said, that the Beast and the Whore had power over tongues and languages, and they are as waters. Thus I told him he might see the Whore and Beast have power over the tongues and the many languages which are in Babylon. Now, said I to the man, dost thou think to make ministers of Christ, by the natural confused languages which sprang from Babel, are admired in Babel, and set a-top of Christ by a persecutor? Oh, no. So the man confest to many of these things; and when we had thus discoursed with him, he became very loving and tender; and after he had considered further of it, he never set up his College."

The Bishop compelled the monks to labour in the holy work daily, excepting at meal-times, and during prayer and divine service; but no considerable progress had been made at the time of his death, which happened within two years after the commencement of the structure. His successor, Ralph Flambard, who enjoyed the bishopric for twenty-nine years, and was equally an encourager of the pious work, finished the building nearly to the roof. This Prelate, before his promotion to the See of Durham, had given proof of his ability in architecture, by the erection of the Collegiate Church of Twinambourne, or Christ Church, in Hampshire. The Cathedral erected by these Prelates, was of the form universally adopted by the Norman architects; a long cross, with two turrets at the west end, and between them, a large and richly ornamented arched door of entrance: the east end probably terminated in a simicircular form, as the lines of union of the original work with the Chapel of the Nine Altars strongly indicate. The side aisles, both of the nave and choir, were vaulted with simicircular arches, groined, and the ribs of the groins carved; but the nave and the choir were open to the timber roof. The nave exhibits the next change of style. Bishop Poore having already given a specimen of his taste in the construction of Salisbury Cathedral, induced Prior Melsonby to conform to a more ornamental mode of architecture in the roof, which he was then building. Under his direction the whole vault was accommodated to the pointed arch, though the Norman zig-zag is used along the ribs of the groins. Successive additions have rendered this Church as it now appears; not only an enlarged specimen of Norman building, but a "most instructive series of examples, illustrating the gradual change of style which took place during the reigns of the three first Henries, till, by degrees, the pointed had completely superseded the semi-circular arch; and the heavy clusters of the Norman pillars were polished into the light shafts of the early English."*

Bishop Flambard translated the remains of St. Cuthbert into the New Church, and erected a stately shrine, called the *Feretory*,
near

* Account of the Cathedral Church of Durham, published by the Society of Antiquaries, p. 4.

near the choir; this was formed with great elegance; being composed of costly marble, lined and gilt: and by means of the additional donations of the numerous pilgrims, it was rendered one of the richest altars in England.

Considering that, in the diligence of his predecessors, to immortalize the memory of their favorite and beneficent Saint, they had forgotten due homage to the Virgin Mary, Bishop Hugh Pudsey, Patriarch of Jerusalem, began to erect, at the *east* end of the Cathedral, a Chapel to her honor, to which females might have free access for devotional exercises: but the work had not proceeded very far, when it was discovered that vast clefts appeared, which threatened an early demolition. This manifestation, as it was considered, of the patron Saint's displeasure at the innovation, induced the Bishop to relinquish his purpose, as to that part of the Church; but he appropriated a part at the *west* end for the Virgin's Chapel, which he named the *Galilee*: into this sanctuary females were allowed to enter without offence;* but they were not on any account to be admitted within the Cathedral.

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* The reason of female exclusion is thus accounted for. "Blessed St. Cuthbert, for a long time, led a most solitary life in the borders of the Picts, at which place great concourse of people daily used to visit him; and from whom, by the providence and grace of God, never any returned without great comfort. This caused both young and old to resort unto him, taking great pleasure both to see him, and to hear him speak. In which time it happened, that the daughter of the King of the province, having illicit commerce with one of her father's domestics, its effects were perceived by the King, and he examined her concerning the author of her disgrace. She, instigated by an evil mind, instantly answered, "The solitary young man, who dwelleth hard by, is he who hath overcome me, and by whose beauty I am thus deceived." Whereupon the King, furiously enraged, presently repaired to the hermit's place, with his daughter, attended by several knights, where he instantly accosted the servant of God in the following manner: "What art thou he, who, under the colour of religion, profanest the temple and sanctuary of God? Art thou he, who, under the cloak and profession of an hermit, exercisest thyself in all filthiness? Behold my daughter, whom thou by thy wiles hast corrupted: therefore now, at last, confess this thy fault, and plainly declare here before this company, in what sort thou hast seduced her." The King's daughter marking the fine speech of her father, impudently stepped forward, and boldly affirmed, "that it was he who had done the wicked fact." At which the
young

The strength of the prejudice by which females were precluded admission, may be estimated from the following anecdotes.

In the year 1333, on Thursday in Easter Week, Edward the Third came to Durham, and lodged in the Priory. On the Wednesday following, Queen Philippa came from Knaresborough in one day to meet him, and being unacquainted with the custom of this Church, went through the Abbey gates to the Priory, and, after supping with the King, retired to rest. This alarmed the Monks, one of whom went to the King, and informed him, that St. Cuthbert had a mortal aversion to the presence of a woman. Unwilling to give any offence to the Church, Edward immediately ordered the Queen to arise, who, in her under garments only, (her mantle, &c. being buried,) returned by the gate through which she had entered, and went to the Castle; after most devoutly praying that St. Cuthbert would not avenge a fault which she had through ignorance committed.—*Anglia Sacra. Vol. I. p. 760.*

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young man, greatly amazed, and perceiving that this calumny proceeded from the instigation of the devil, (wherewith he was brought into great perplexity,) applied his whole heart unto Almighty God, saying as followeth: "My Lord, my God, who only knowest, and art the discoverer, of all secrets, make manifest also this work of iniquity, and by some token disprove the same, which, though it cannot be done by human policy, make it known by some divine token." When the young man, with great lamentation, and tears unutterable, had spoken these words, even suddenly, and in the same place where she stood, the earth making a hissing noise, presently opened, and swallowed her up in the presence of all the spectators. As soon as the King perceived this miracle to happen in the presence of all his company, he began to be greatly tormented in his mind, fearing lest, for his furious threats, he should incur the same punishment. Whereupon he, with his company, humbly craving pardon of Almighty God, with a further petition to that good man St. Cuthbert, that by his prayers he would crave of God to have his daughter again; which petition the holy father granted, upon condition, that from thence no woman should come near him. Whence it came to pass, the King did not suffer any woman to enter into any church dedicated to that Saint, which to this day is duly observed in all the churches of the Picts, which were dedicated to that holy man." *Davis's Extract of the coming of St. Cuthbert into Scotland, taken forth of the Scottish History, p. 60.*

In the year 1417, two women of Newcastle, being determined to approach the Shrine of St. Cuthbert nearer than was legally permitted, disguised themselves in man's apparel, but were unfortunately discovered in the attempt to complete their purpose, and taken into custody. By way of punishment for their intended prophanation, they were adjudged to walk, on three festival days, before the procession in St. Nicholas's Church, Newcastle, and on three other holidays, at the Church of All Saints, in the same town, habited in the dresses in which they committed the offence; proclamation being first made, as to the cause of this penance. The master and mistress of these curious females were at the same time ordered to attend the Spiritual Court at Durham, to answer the charge of being counsellors and abettors in this misdemeanor.*

The great, or central Tower, is more modern than the other parts of the Cathedral, it having been projected, and partly built, by Prior Melsonby, who acceded in the year 1233. His successors, Prior Middleton, and Prior Hugh, of Darlington, who was elected in 1258, finished the work. Prior Melsonby is also reputed as the builder of the stone roof of this noble structure; and the commencement of the *Chapel of the Nine Altars* has been likewise attributed to him; though its completion is ascribed by Hutchinson, to Richard de Hotoun, who acceded to the priory in 1289.

No material alterations, or additions, were made in the Cathedral, from the above period till about the year 1776, when a survey being taken, and the fabric adjudged in a state of insecurity, and rapid decay, a system of repair was immediately commenced, under the patronage of the Dean and Chapter, and has been continued, with little intermission, to the present time. Whatever opinion may be entertained of the professional talents of the respective artists by whom the repairs have been conducted, or of their abilities

* A copy of the mandate, directing the chaplains of the above churches to see the penance performed, is preserved in Bourne's History of Newcastle; and also a copy of the return made by the chaplain of All Saints.

abilities in restoring the architectural adornments of former days, the attention of the Dean and Chapter to the preservation of this august pile; must indubitably be allowed to merit the highest praise. During the last twelve or fourteen years, a sum, amounting to not less than from 1500l. to 2000l. annually, has been expended in its improvement; and by a judicious appropriation of the means provided for this purpose, an income has been secured of sufficient value to defray all general charges of future repair. By the original benefactors, the woods growing on the Church lands were appropriated for its preservation; and since the present alterations were commenced, a considerable quantity of timber has been felled, and its produce *vested in the funds*, in order to provide a *constant* revenue for the necessary reparations. The munificence of the present Dean and Chapter is also evinced by the donation of 300l. annually subscribed in aid of the sums deemed requisite to defray the charges of the late, and projected improvements.

The situation of this venerable pile is equally bold and singular. Elevated on a rocky eminence that forms the highest part of the city, it bursts on the sight with uncommon grandeur; the base of the rocks which support its west end, being laved by the waters of the Wear. From the square called the Place Green, by which it is generally approached, the whole of the north front is at once beheld. This entire range preserves its original Norman character, with occasional introductions of windows and tracery in the pointed arch manner: but various incongruities in the style and ornaments are observable, and may be traced to the late reparations. The Porch forming the principal entrance, may, in particular, be remarked as one of most barbarous commixtures of the Saxon and pointed styles that ever disgraced modern architecture. On the door within the Porch is a curious metallic ring, or knocker, sculptured with a terrific visage, in bold relief, and well executed, with which persons claiming sanctuary* in the night-time were accustomed to alarm the inmates of the Cathedral.

Above

* "In ancient times, before the house was supprest, the abbey church, the church-yard, and all the circuit thereof, was a sanctuary for all manner of men that committed any great offence, or any prisoners who had broken out of prison,

Above the great window of the north transept, were formerly, in two roundels, the figures of Benedictine Monks, carved in relief; these, which displayed the state of the art at the period when that division of the building was erected, have been removed, and their places occupied by two new figures; one, a Prior, seated in his installation chair; the other, an effigy of Bishop Pudsey, as portrayed on the episcopal seal attached to his charter to the city of Durham. On the octangular tower, at the west angle of the Chapel of the Nine Altars, which forms the eastern extremity of the Cathedral, is the memorable basso relievo representing the event which occasioned the latter to be founded on this spot. According to the legend, the monks who had removed St. Cuthbert's relics from Ripon, in hopes of discovering a more peaceful residence, were by a vision directed to *Dunholme*, a place they were then unacquainted with; but while travelling through the country with uncertain steps, a woman, in quest of a strayed cow, was informed, in their hearing, that she would find it in Dunholme, (Durham,) whither, with grateful hearts, they accompanied their female guide. The figures which represent the cow, the woman, and some other personage, appear in a recess of the stone-work; but

son, and fled to the church door, knocking to have it opened; also, certain men lay in two chambers over the north door for that purpose, that, whenever such offenders came, and knocked, they instantly let them in at any hour of the night; and ran quickly to the Galilee bell, and tolled it, that whosoever heard it, might know that some had taken sanctuary. When the Prior had notice thereof, he sent orders for them to keep within the sanctuary; that is, within the church, and church-yard; and that every one should have a gown of black cloth, with a yellow cross, called St. Cuthbert's cross, at the left shoulder; that every one might see the privilege granted at St. Cuthbert's shrine, for offenders to fly unto for succour and safeguard of their lives, till they could obtain their Prince's pardon: and that they should lie within the church on a grate, made only for that purpose, adjoining to the Galilee south door. They had likewise meat, drink, bedding, and other necessities, at the cost of the house for thirty-seven days, being only such as were necessary for such offenders until the Prior and convent could get them conveyed out of the diocese. This privilege was confirmed not only by King Guthrid, but by King Alured likewise." *Hutchinson. Cont. from Davies, Sir John Lawson's MSS. and Mr. Hogg's Roll.*

but were re-sculptured a few years ago, and their original forms somewhat altered.

The east front has been repaired and modernized: the windows, forming a double range, are all of the lancet shape, excepting the centre window of the upper tier, which is circular, and radiated with stone-work. These windows were originally ornamented with a profusion of painted glass, which, from various accidents, became so defaced and mutilated, that the subjects could not be traced; it is now entirely removed. The south front preserves much of its ancient character, though some parts have been chiseled over to make way for the new facings. Only a partial view can be obtained of this side of the Cathedral, as the cloisters, dormitory, and other buildings, conceal nearly the whole of the lower part. The west front, consisting of two highly ornamented square Towers, with the Galilee between, appears to great advantage from the opposite side of the river. "The base-line of the elevation," observes Mr. Carter, "presents the projecting Chapel of the Galilee, flanked by huge buttresses and arches, springing out of the rock, to contribute due support to its walls, which form one vast combination of security to the main edifice itself." Above the Galilee is the great west window, with various enriched compartments springing up to the roof. The architectural adornments of the towers are modern; and the attempt to make them accord with the original forms, has, in many instances, proved unsuccessful: their summits are bounded by pinnacles and open worked battlements. The great centre tower rises from the intersection of the nave and transept, and is singularly rich and elegant. Round it is a profusion of fine tracery, pointed arches, and other ornaments; and its buttresses are graced with niches, canopied, and decorated with tracery, within which various statues are placed, representing the original founders and patrons of the See. The height of this tower is 214 feet.

The interior of this august building is highly interesting to those who wish to trace the connection between Saxon and Norman architecture, or to observe the latter in, perhaps, its highest stage

of

of perfection. The comparison of these orders with the English, or pointed styles, may also be made; as the Chapel of the Nine Altars partakes, in its general enrichments and proportion, of the architectural character of Salisbury Cathedral; and, from its singularly light appearance, forms a striking contrast with the massive Norman work prevalent in the other parts of the fabric.

“In the inside of this structure,” observes Mr. Pennant, “is preserved much of the ponderous, yet venerable, magnificence of the early Norman style: the pillars are vast cylinders, twenty-three feet in circumference; some adorned with zigzag furrows; others, lozenge-shaped, with narrow ribs, or with spiral; the arches round, carved with zigzags; above are two rows of galleries, each with round arches or openings: a row of small pilasters runs round the sides of the church, with rounded arches intersecting each other.” A more particular description has been given by Mr. Hutchinson, in the following words.

“The two extreme columns to the west, rise from bases of the form of a complicated cross, having pointed projections from the interior angles: the dimensions of each base are fifteen feet every way, being exactly similar to those which support the columns of the tower and dome, vulgarly called the lantern: the pillars are clustered, having three semicircular pilasters in each front, divided by an angular projection. The next column, eastward, rises from a base of the form of a cross, twelve feet every way, supporting a clustered pillar, the pilasters of which towards the nave, run up to the roof through the fascia, between the upper windows. The next rises from a square base of eight feet, and is richly fluted, terminating with a plain capital, which supports the gallery above the side aisle. Each intermediate pillar is clustered like those described in the second place, stretching up to the roof; those in the intervals are circular, making the succession consist of a clustered pillar and a round one alternately. The first round pillar is fluted, as before described; the second covered with the zig-zag figure; and the third grooved with the figure of a net. The pillars opposite to each other are exactly similar in ornaments and dimensions; and it is also to be observed, that the bases of the

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clustered,

clustered, and of the round pillars, through the whole building, have the same dimensions as those above described. All the side walls are decorated with pilasters opposite to the columns; and the interior spaces under the windows, are filled with double pilasters, and intersecting round arches, throughout the whole building, excepting only in the east transept. In the Chapel of the Nine Altars the arches between the great columns are all semicircular; the outward members dentelled; the interior, zig-zagged. The under gallery opens to the middle aisle, with one round arch, divided within into two arches, supported on a centre pillar: the upper gallery opens with single arches. At the west end of the nave is a short cross aisle, over the ends of which rise the west towers. The vaultings of the side aisles are semicircular, and crossed with groined arches in plain rolls, intersecting each other in the centre. In the vaulting of the nave, the ribs intersect each other in pointed arches, and are ornamented with zig-zag work in the fillets.”*

In the middle of the nave, between the four western pillars, is the *Baptisterium*, or font. This is a rich piece of tabernacle work, of red oak, in an octangular form, terminating in a pinnacle, ornamented by a dove with expanded wings. The upper part is supported on columns: the whole is about thirty feet high. At a small distance further to the east, and forming part of the pavement, is a long *cross*, of blue marble, marking the boundary beyond which females were not allowed to pass, even many years after they had been permitted to enter the Cathedral from the Galilee.

The *Galilee*, or St. Mary's Chapel, is divided by clustered columns, and semicircular arches, into five aisles; the most northern of which is now inclosed as the Registrar's Office. The singular combination of the Norman and Pointed styles displayed in this building, arose from the repairs directed by Bishop, afterwards Cardinal Langley, about the year 1406. Here were formerly three altars, now wholly removed: that in the centre was dedicated

dedicated to the Holy Virgin. Before the steps, which approached it, is the tomb of the Cardinal, who died in 1438; and near it, to the south, a large marble stone, covering the remains of the VENERABLE BEDE, the most learned man of his time, and of whom it might truly be said, that 'he was a light shining in darkness.' A few other memorials of persons buried here occur, and among them the following inscription.

John Brimleis body here doth ly,
 Who prayes God with hand and voice;
 By musickes heavenlie harmonie
 Dull myndes he made in God rejoyce:
 His soul into the Heavens is lyft,
 To prayse HIM still that gave the gyft.

The breadth of the Galilee, from east to west, is fifty feet; its length, eighty feet. The original entrance was on the north, from a small yard, adjoining the church-yard; but it is now entered from the side aisles of the Cathedral.

On the south side of the nave are deposited the remains of the great RALPH, LORD NEVILLE, who was chiefly instrumental in obtaining the battle of Red Hills, from him denominated *Neville's Cross*, in which David Bruce, King of Scotland, was taken prisoner in 1346. The tomb of his son, Lord John, is placed near. Ralph, Lord Neville was the first layman who was permitted to be interred within the Cathedral. These monuments were formerly ornamented with recumbent figures of the great personages inclosed within them, and surrounded by smaller carved figures in alabaster, finely cut; but are now mutilated, and nearly defaced. This outrage is to be attributed to the general disrespect paid to religious edifices during the Civil Wars. In those lamentable times, the Cathedral was converted into a place of confinement for the Scottish prisoners after the battle of Dunbar; and they destroyed or mutilated whatever came within their reach.

The great Tower, or lantern, which rises at the intersection of the nave and middle transept, "is supported by clusters of columns, rising to the springing of the groins; the great arch springing from them is crowned by an open gallery of communication
 round

round the inside of the lantern: the space from the gallery to the window is filled with rich compartments, which, with the window itself, are well imagined: groined arches form the termination of the lantern; and when viewed from below, the magnitude and grandeur of its several parts are extremely striking.”*

At each end of the middle transept, on the east side, is an aisle separated from the body of the transept, by one clustered and two round pillars; one of the latter is grooved in the spiral form; the other, in the zig-zag manner: in each aisle was formerly three altars. The windows of this transept were once richly ornamented with painted glass, of which little remains, but a figure of St. Bede in a blue habit, and some imperfect memorials of the crucifixion. At the south end of the transept is a curious clock, erected by the Dean and Chapter in the year 1632.

The *Choir* is divided from the transept by an oak screen, decorated with festoons of fruit and flowers, carved in a very bold style, and having an entablature of a rich foliage pattern. Above the screen is a large and fine toned organ. The length of the Choir is 120 feet: the floor is paved with black and white marble. The prebendal stalls are finished with tabernacle work, in which the ancient style is but indifferently imitated, but their general effect is not unpleasing. On the south side is the episcopal Throne,† an elegant structure, erected about the year 1730, by Bishop Hatfield, over the vault wherein he lies interred. The throne is considerably elevated; in the centre is a chair of state, having a canopy of ornamental tabernacle work: it was repaired by Bishop Crewe in the year 1700, and new-painted and gilt by Bishop Egerton in 1772. The pulpit which is on the north side, is adorned with figures of some of the Apostles, neatly inlaid on the pannels, and nearly as large as life. “The Choir comprehends four pillars on each side; two of them clustered, and two round; the latter are cut in the spiral figure. The roof was repaired, or rather

* Account of the Cathedral of Durham, published by the Society of Antiquaries.

† When the Bishop goes to the throne, he is always preceeded by a person bearing a massy gilded mace, in distinction of his secular power. *Hutchinson.*

rather new vaulted, by Prior Hotoun, who acceded in 1289: it is of elegant Gothic work, the ribs of the arches terminating in points ornamented with roses; the fillets pierced in roses and crosses: some of the decorations of the centre roses are singular; one next to the organ contains a human figure, with three round balls in an apron. From the altar-rails eastward, the whole work appears nearly of the same date; and by the architecture of this part, it seems that the building originally terminated here, and was opened further eastward to form a connection with the east transept, or Chapel of the Nine Altars. The columns which rise at the altar-rail, are little more than the plain facing of a common wall, ornamented with long small pilasters, single and belted in the middle; their capitals pierced, decorated with figures of animals, and finished above with tabernacle work. The opening of the gallery in this part is different from the rest of the church, and consists of three pointed arches, supported by columns, whose capitals are richly pierced; the fillets of the arches are pierced, and highly decorated; and there is also an interior pillar supporting a groined vaulting. Here the building appears to have been broken off, and the east wall removed; yet the vaulting of the roof is continued, and over the altar-table finished with a fine pointed arch, supported on clustered pillars, ranging with the side of the east transept: the capitals, and the fillets or mouldings of the arch, are highly finished with pierced work, and bear no degree of similitude to any of the more western parts of the edifice. Within the altar-rails are four seats on each side of the altar-table, for the officiating priests to rest, formed of pillars supporting pinnacle work, of the same materials and design as the work behind the altar, and most probably were erected at the same time.”*

The *Screen*, which forms the eastern termination of the choir, and divides it from the Feretory, and Chapel of the Nine Altars, is of very elegant workmanship, but has been greatly mutilated at various periods since its erection. “It was given by John Lord

Vol. V.

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Neville

* Hutchinson's Durham, Vol. II. p. 244.

Neville at the expence of 400l. (a vast sum in those times;) the Prior and Convent contributing largely, by giving towards its completion, 123l. 6s. 8d. the work of it having been previously wrought in London, and sent hither by sea. Robert Berrington, the Prior, employed seven expert masons, who were almost a year in erecting it, and to whom, besides their wages, he allowed meat and drink till the work was finished, in 1380. The design is divided into three tiers, or stories. The lowest, or basement, is solid; the second and third are open, so that the statues which filled the niches, or rather canopies, were seen through in a back view from the east side. The light and airy pinnacles, rising in a pyramidical form, tier above tier, in splendid confusion, cannot be too much admired.* Under three grand centre canopies on the west side, were originally whole length statues of our Lady, St. Cuthbert, and St. Oswald; and all the others were likewise ornamented with statues of great and holy personages. The various niches on the east side were also filled with historic statues

Immediately behind the Screen, projecting into the Chapel of the Nine Altars, and on a level with the choir, is the Chapel called the *Feretory*, where the gorgeous shrine of St. Cuthbert was anciently deposited. This shrine, through "the godly devotion of Kings, Queens, and other estates," is reported to have become the richest in the kingdom; but its ancient splendor is vanished, and the only marks of its former reputation, are to be found in the hollow impressions worn in the stone flooring, by the feet of the numerous pilgrims who visited the shrine in the ages of superstition. So meritorious was this last act considered, that, in the year 1284, William, Bishop of Dumblain, granted a remission of
forty

* Account of Durham Cathedral, published by the Society of Antiquaries; in which also it is observed, that, "modern authors, in describing this screen, say, that it is made of plaster of Paris; so judging, no doubt, from one of the names by which it is known, that is the French *Pierre*; but had they considered the impossibility of its being constructed in that manner, or made the slightest observation on its material, they would have found it wrought in the usual material, free-stone."

forty days penance to every votary who performed it.* The remains of St. Cuthbert are said to have been deposited here, in a “*chest well fortified with nayles and leather*,”† which was afterwards inclosed in a marble sepulchre at the expence of John Lord Neville, but these have long been removed; the shrine having

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been

* The original Indulgence is yet preserved in the Library of the Dean and Chapter; and a copy of it is appended to Dr. Smith’s edition of Bede, No. 26.

† Hegge’s Legend: in this work is the following relation of the *incorruptibility* of St. Cuthbert. “Before the day of translation came, Prior Turgot, with some of his brethren, determined to open his tombe, with intent to show his body to the people, if they found it entire. Att night, therefore, they mett at his sepulchre, and reverently taking off the stone, they found a chest well fortified with nayles and leather, and in it another, wrapt in cloth thrice double, in which they found the Booke of the Evangelists* which had fallen into the sea; a little silver altar, a goblet of pure gold, with an onyx stone, and an ivory comb: lastly, opening the third chest, they found the body of the Saint (which the grave in so many years had not digested) lying upon the right side, to give room to the rest of the reliques: for in the same coffin were the bones of venerable Bede; the head of St. Oswald; part of the bones of Aldanus, Eadfrid, and Ethelwold, Bishops of Lindisfarne: all which reliques they placed with due reverence in other parts of the Church; and laying St. Cuthbert on his back, they placed St. Oswald’s head between his hands. At the day of his translation, Ranulphus, the Bishop, published in his sermon to the people, the incorruption of St. Cuthbert’s body, which was flexible, and now might plead prescription with the grave to be immortal. And thus in great solemnity they enshrined him beneath the high altar, in the presence of the Abbot of St. Albans, the Abbot of St. Maries, in Yorke, the Abbot of St. Germans, Prior Turgot, with thousands of people spectators of the miracle.”

* *The Book of the Evangelists* was originally written by Edfrid, a Monk, who in 698 was advanced to the See of Lindisfarne, and during his retirement in that Monastery translated the Gospels into Latin. After his decease, it was decorated with gold and jewels by Ethelwold, his successor; and with some *curious paintings* by Bilfrid, an Anchorite. Prefixed to it, are the *Prefaces* and *Canons* of Eusebius and Hieronymus; besides an interlineary Saxon Version by Aldred the Priest. At the end of St. John’s Gospel are these lines added in a contemporary hand:

† Litera me pandat, Sermonis fida ministra, Omnes alme meos fratres
cum voce saluta.

And

been defaced and plundered by the Commissioners of Henry the Eighth, who himself ordered the sanctified relics of St. Cuthbert "to be buried in the ground under the place where his shrine was exalted."* A large blue stone, placed in the centre of the floor, is reported to cover the often-removed bones of the venerated Saint.

The

And afterwards;

- + Trinus et Unis Deus Evangelium hoc ante sæcula constituit.
- + Matheus ex ore Christi scripsit.
- + Marcus ex ore Petri scripsit.
- + Lucas de ore Petri Apostoli scripsit.
- + Johannes in prochemio deinde eructavit verbum, Deo donante, et Spiritu sancto, scripsit.

Then follows a Saxon writing, signifying that it was the work of the above Edfrid, Ethelwold, Bilfrid, and Aldred. This truly venerable piece of antiquity was preserved in the Cathedral till the Reformation. It afterwards fell into the hands of Sir Robert Cotton, and is yet preserved in his Collection in the British Museum. *Hutchinson's Durham, Vol. II. p. 245.*

* Davies's Ancient Rights and Monuments, &c. p. 159, ed. 1672. The tale of the incorruptibility of St. Cuthbert's body is also preserved by this author, as follows. "The sacred shrine of holy St. Cuthbert was defaced at the visitation which Dr. Lee, Dr. Henley, and Mr. Blithman, held at Durham, for the subverting such monuments, in the time of Henry the Eighth, at his suppression of the Abbeyes. There were found many worthy and goodly jewels, but especially one precious stone, which, by the estimate of those then visitors, and their skilful lapidaries, was of value sufficient to ransom a prince. After the spoil of his ornaments and jewels, coming near unto his body, thinking to have found nothing but dust and bones, and finding the chest that he lay in very strongly bound with iron, the goldsmith, taking a great forge hammer of a smith, broke the said chest; and when they had opened it, they found him lying whole, uncorrupt, with his face bare, and his beard, as it were, of a fortnight's growth, and all his vestments about him as he was accustomed to say mass, and his metwand of gold lying by him. When the goldsmith perceived he had broken one of his legs, as he broke open the chest, he was troubled at it, and cried, "Alas! I have broken one of his legs." Dr. Henley, hearing him say so, called upon him, and bid him cast down his bones. Whereto the other answered, that he could not get them asunder; for the sinews and the skin held them so that they would not come asunder. Then Dr. Lee stepped up to see whether

The *Chapel of the Nine Altars*, which terminates the Cathedral eastward, is entered from the side aisles of the Choir, by a descent of several steps. Its length is 130 feet; its breadth, from the screen of the high altar, 51 feet; thus making the entire length of the building 411 feet. The pilasters of this transept, from which rise the groins of the roof, are of an angular projection, light and elegant: on each side of the great window the pilasters consist of a cluster of small circular columns, one of larger dimensions in front, and six on each side, to form the projecting angle. "The several columns composing the clusters, are beautifully contrived to relieve the eye from the general mass; they standing in part clear of the body of the cluster, but connected to it by their bases, bands, and capitals, which, with the ribs of the groins springing from them, are enriched with foliage and flowers."* Every other column "is of black marble, the intermediate ones of white free-stone, which had a beautiful effect before they were, from the mistaken zeal of Reformation, daubed over, and concealed as they now remain, with washing and oker.†" This portion of the Cathedral received its name from the Nine Altars erected beneath the windows on the east side, and dedicated to various saints. The decorations of these altars, as they appeared previous to the Reformation, have been thus described. "The Nine Altars had their several screens, and covers of wainscot over-head; having likewise between every altar, a very fair and large partition of wainscot, all varnished over with

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fine

whether it were so, and turning about, spake in Latin to Dr. Henley, that he was entire; yet Dr. Henley seemed not to give credit to his words, but still cried to have his bones cast down. Then Dr. Lee made answer, "If you will not believe me, come up yourself, and see him." Whereupon Dr. Henley did step up, and handle him, and found that he lay whole. Then he commanded them to take him down; and so it happened, contrary to their expectation, that not only his body was whole, and uncorrupted, but also that the vestments, wherein his body lay, and wherein he was accustomed to say mass, were fresh, safe, and not consumed."

* Account of Durham Cathedral, published by the Society of Antiquaries.

† Hutchinson's Durham. Vol. II. p. 254.

fine branches and flowers, and other imagery work, containing the several lockyers and amberies for the safe keeping of the vestments and ornaments belonging to the altar, with three or four little amberies in the wall, for the same use and purpose." Before the great centre window, it appears also, that nine cressets, or lamps, were suspended, whose light was so great, as to make every part of the Church visible during the whole time they were kept burning.

Many distinguished prelates, and other eminent persons, have been interred in this Cathedral, and their remains covered with beautiful tombs and brasses, which have mostly been swept away by the hands of sacrilege or fanaticism, since the days of Henry the Eighth: the principal monument now remaining, is that to the memory of Bishop Hatfield, on the south side of the choir. The basement story of the episcopal throne serves as a canopy to the altar-tomb of this prelate, whose effigies is in fine preservation, and has been thus described by Mr. Carter. "This beautiful statue has fortunately been preserved in a nearly perfect state to this time; a few of the most prominent parts having only suffered. The Bishop is habited in his episcopal dress, richly adorned with sculpture, painting, and gilding, in imitation of embroidery. The outer garment is the chasuble in its ancient ample form, and much ornamented. On his hands are the episcopal gloves, embroidered on the back; on his left arm is the maniple. Beneath the chasuble is the linen alb, or surplice; and under that appears another garment or tunic, on which are richly embroidered three shields of arms. On the central shield are the arms of England; in the two lateral ones, the Bishop's own coat. The honor of bearing the arms of England in this manner, seems a proof of the high estimation in which this magnanimous prelate was held by his sovereign, and perhaps might have been granted to him in consequence of the distinguished part he bore in the signal victory of Neville's Cross. The feet of the Bishop are covered with rich, embroidered shoes; and on his head is the mitre, of its ancient low form." The painting and gilding which adorned the statue, as well as the emblazonments and arms which ornamented the whole

whole tomb, are now entirely hidden and defaced by a thick coat of light yellow.

Some beautifully ornamented Doorways, in the Norman style, are connected with different parts of the Cathedral; two of them have been thus described in the account published by the Society of Antiquaries, which is also accompanied by elevations and ground-plans. "The proportion of the door entering into the north cloister, from the west end of the south aisle, is very striking, and it has much the air of a Roman arch. On each side the opening are three columns: the two exterior ones are united in an uncommon mode. They are covered with diagonal mouldings, which, by meeting at the union of the column, form diamond pannels. The single column on the left has lozenge pannels placed alternately, and each filled with a flower. That on the right has larger diamonds, filled with flowers, and divided by beads: the ornaments of both the capitals are varied. The architrave is divided into three parts; the first and second have the diagonal or zigzag: the exterior division is of uncommon form; it consists of a sort of semi-octagonal band. The two oblique faces are hollowed like cavettos: the middle face is flat, and enriched with leaves. Over all are laid large pateras, ornamented with flowers and foliage."

The second door opens from the north side of the cloisters into the east end of the south aisle of the nave, and is equally rich and singular in its decorations with the former. "The three columns on each side stand on a surbase: their shafts are plain, and their capitals rather of a simple form; they are detached from the wall in the manner of the early English style: within them is a flat ground, in which is the opening of the doorway. This ground is highly enriched with an uncommon variety of the diagonal moulding, edged with beads, and with roses in the pannels. An unaccountable irregularity of design occurs in the left-hand of the arch: the architrave is divided into four parts; the first, a cavetto, with detached roses; the second is a bold convex, covered with a double frett, beaded; the third is also convex, with a turited band, also beaded; the exterior is likewise convex, and resembles

a bundle of twigs, with the young shoots or stalks of leaves cut off short: these twigs are also beaded. This ornament seems, by some small parts yet remaining, to have been continued on each side, over other arches."

The *Cloisters* adjoin the Cathedral on the south, and were erected between the years 1389 and 1438, at the expence of 838l. 17s. 6d. six hundred of which was paid by Bishop Skirlaw, and the remainder by Cardinal Langley. They form a quadrangle of 147 feet, having eleven open windows in each front, the mullions and tracery of which were repaired in the pointed style some years ago. They are ceiled with pannels of Irish oak, originally ornamented with emblazoned shields of the arms of various illustrious personages who contributed to enrich the Church by their benevolence or piety: scarcely any of these embellishments are now distinguishable.

On the west side the cloisters is the *Dormitory*, which is entered by a flight of stone steps, and is an apartment of very large proportions, but ill lighted, and desolate in its aspect. Under the dormitory were the song school and treasury; in which, according to Mr. Hutchinson, are lodged, "about ninety royal charters and grants, fifty-two deeds by nobles and barons, and 266 by inferior gentry; about 131 by popes, bishops, priors, &c. and 130 other original deeds and copies: altogether 670.

On the east side of the cloisters was the Frater-house, or Monk's Hall, which Dean Sudbury converted into an elegant *Library* for the Dean and Chapter about the year 1680. This apartment has just been repaired; and the excellent collection of books destined to fill its shelves are at present in confusion. Various Roman inscriptions, found in the bishopric, and in the adjoining county of Northumberland, are here deposited; as well as many records and curiosities, and among them a copy of Magna Charta, dated 12th November, 1216; another, dated 11th February, 1224; (from these Judge Blackstone made his collations;) a manuscript copy of the Bible, in four volumes folio, 600 years old; and Bede's five books of History, of the same date.

The *Chapter-House*, which stood on the east side of the cloisters, was mostly pulled down during the late repairs of the Cathedral: its form was an oblong square, terminating in a semi-circle towards the east. Its internal arrangement is spoken of as bearing "a striking resemblance to the most ancient Christian churches." In this building many of the ancient Prelates* were entombed; and against the east end was the stone chair or throne in which the new Bishops were installed.

From the cloisters is a passage leading to a spacious oblong square, called the *College*, which occupies the most pleasant part of the city, and is chiefly inhabited by persons whose offices attach them to the Cathedral. Here is the *Deanery* and *Prebendal* houses: the latter being well built, and partly modern, have a very respectable appearance. The Deanery was formerly the Prior's lodgings; but scarcely any of the apartments remain unaltered:

* The general burial-place of the Monks was the Cemetery, or Centry Garth, which extended eastward from the Chapter House; and in which was placed the Stone Cross of St. Ethelwold, said to have been removed from the church at Lindisfarne. In the *Cathedral* church-yard, which ranges on the north side, among numerous other memorials of departed merit, is an altar-tomb to the memory of the respected author of *The Economy of Human Life*, and other esteemed works; with this inscription, composed by Joseph Spence, A. M. Professor of Modern History at Oxford.

If you have any respect
For uncommon Industry and Merit,
Regard this Place;
In which are interred the Remains
Of

MR. ROBERT DODSLEY:
Who, as an Author, raised himself
Much above what could have been expected
From one in his Rank of Life,
And without learned Education:
And who, as a Man, was scarcely
Exceeded by any, in Integrity of Heart,
And Purity of Manners, and Conversation.
He left this Life for a better
September 23d, 1764, in the 61st Year of his Age.

altered: the kitchen was originally the kitchen of the monastery, and has been characterized by a modern artist, as a "master-piece of masonry:" its form is octangular, and its dimensions very large. The roof is vaulted, and, in its general construction, it resembles the Abbot's kitchen at Glastonbury. At the upper end of the square is a neat fountain, or reservoir, for supplying the neighbouring families with water, which is brought in pipes from Elvet Moor, about a mile distant.

The stone Gateway at the entrance of the College from the Baileys was erected by Prior Castell, about the year 1515. Above it was the Chapel of St. Helen, and the old Exchequer, where all the rents reserved in the chapter leases are made payable.

When the possessions of the Benedictine Priory, established here by Bishop Carilepho, were surrendered to Henry the Eighth, in the year 1540, the whole endowment of the See* amounted to upwards of 2821l. annually; and though in the time of the Commonwealth, episcopal estates to the amount of 68,121l. 15s. 9d. were sold by the Parliament's Commissioners, the revenues of this Church are still of greater value than those of any other bishopric in England. In 1541, Henry the Eighth granted a new foundation charter, directing, that the Cathedral Church,† instead of being dedicated, as before, to *the Blessed Mary the Virgin, and St. Cuthbert the Bishop*, should thenceforth bear the denomination

* The annual revenues of the Convent, according to Dugdale, were valued at 1366l. 10s. 5d. according to Speed, at 1615l. 14s. 10d.

† As the dimensions of the various parts of the Cathedral have hitherto been only incidentally mentioned, it may be expedient to give a connected view of the different admeasurements. The entire length of the structure, exclusive of the Galilee, is 411 feet; the length of the nave is 260 feet; its width 74; and its height 69 feet, six inches: the cross aisle at the west end of the nave, is 90 feet long, and 18 wide from the centres of the columns: the length of the middle transept is 170 feet; and its width, including its side aisles, 57: the length of the choir is 120 feet, its width 74: the east transept, or Chapel of the Nine Altars, is 130 feet long, and 51 wide: the height of the great tower is 214 feet; that of each of the west towers, 138: the extent of the Galilee, from east to west, is 50 feet; from north to south, 80 feet.

nomination of the *Cathedral of Christ and Blessed Mary the Virgin*; and that it should be governed by a Dean and twelve Prebendaries. The establishment, besides the Dean and Prebendaries, consists of two Arch-deacons, twelve minor Canons, a Deacon, Sub-deacon, sixteen Singing-men, a Master of the Choristers, ten Choristers, a Divinity Reader, eight Alms-men, two Masters of the Grammar School, eighteen Scholars, two Vergers, two Porters, two Sextons, and two Barbers.*

In the seventh year of Edward the Sixth, an act of Parliament was obtained, through the influence of the Duke of Northumberland, by which the Bishopric of Durham was dissolved, and all "the lands and possessions thereof were given to the King, with authority, by Letters Patent, to erect two new bishoprics; one at Durham, with 2000 marks revenue; and the other at Newcastle, with 1000 marks revenue; together with a deanery and chapter there."† This act was procured by the Duke under the plea, that the Bishopric was too large, and that one Prelate was insufficient for its proper government; but the King dying soon afterwards, it was never carried into execution; and after the accession of Queen Mary it was repealed, and the Bishop "reinstated in his See, and all the county palatine regalities, and jurisdictions, both ecclesiastical and temporal."‡ From

* Willis informs us, "that the King, converting the Priory into a College of Seculars, assigned his new Dean and Prebendaries their respective apartments out of the old Monastery, within the precincts of which the Bishop, Dean, Prebendaries, and other members, have very good houses, the best of any cathedral in England, according to the dignity of the Prebends, which are reputed more richly endowed than any other church, owing to the members allotting themselves, at first, their respective dividends or shares out of the chapter lands, and not having them in common; by which practice (in this sole church of the new foundation) some Prebends are of more value than others; whereas in the rest they are all equal, as they might be here possibly at first, though the improvements of estates have made a disproportion, as it now continues."

Survey of Cathedrals, Vol. I. p. 222.

† How's Annals.

‡ "This act for restoring the Bishopric and County Palatine to its ancient state, met with great opposition, King Edward having granted away great part of the lands of the Bishoprick, many whereof were confirmed by Parliament; but,

From the Cathedral on the north extends an open area, called the Place, or Palace Green, on the north side of which is the CASTLE, now the residence of the Bishop whenever he visits Durham. This structure stands on the continuation of the same rocky eminence on which the Cathedral is built, and from its upper apartments, commands some very fine views of the city, and surrounding country. Whether this spot was fortified before the time of William the Conqueror, is uncertain; but its favorable situation for defence renders the affirmative extremely probable. The fortifications which originally surrounded the city included the whole summit of the hill, the outward wall extending along the very brink of the eminence, and forming an oval figure, abruptly terminated at its northern extremity by the Castle. The most ancient part of this structure is the keep, or tower, which occupies the top of an artificial mount, and is supposed to have been of Norman construction; though Hutchinson, from "the roses which ornament the summits of the buttresses, and the form of the windows,"* is more inclined to refer its erection to Bishop Hatfield. The form of the keep is that of an irregular octagon; its diameter, in the widest part, sixty-three feet, six inches; and in the narrowest, sixty-one feet. It is now a mere shell; but appears to have contained originally, four stories, or tiers of apartments, exclusive

but, after many warm debates, it at length passed by a division of 201 against 120. The preamble to the bill sets forth, 'that certain ambitious persons, taking advantage of the late King's minority, made an interest by sinister practices to procure a dissolution of the Bishoprick: that it was done out of mercenary views, to enrich themselves and friends, by seizing the lands of the See, rather than upon just occasion and godly zeal: that Cuthbert Tunstall, Bishop of Durham, was deprived upon undue surmises, and false accusations, and that the process against him was false and illegal, &c. That the Queen had new founded the Bishoprick by her Letters Patent, and restored all the lands in her possession; but that as neither the sentence of deprivation, nor the Queen's Letters Patent, were of sufficient force to recover the honours, lands, &c. to the See of Durham, therefore, to restore the Bishoprick to its former interest, privileges, and revenues, the two dissolution statutes of the last reign were thereby repealed."

Statutes at Large, 1. M. C. 3.

* History of Durham, Vol. II. p. 286.

exclusive of a series of vaults, which rise from the foundation. The angles are supported by buttresses; and a parapet, defended by an embattled breast-work, has run round the summit of the whole building; but this having become very ruinous, was taken down by the direction of Bishop Thurlow, in the year 1789: the principal entrance was on the west side. The perpendicular height of the mount on which it stands, is forty-four feet: round this space three pleasant terraces have been formed, each ten feet wide, and communicating with each other by flights of steps.

The buildings which now constitute the Castle, have been erected at various times, and by different persons, and have consequently but very little uniformity. Some parts, which had suffered by fire, were restored by Bishop Pudsey, who acceded to the Bishopric in the year 1153. He is also supposed to have erected the first hall; but this, with other parts of the Castle, going to decay, a new and more magnificent hall was built by Bishop Hatfield, the original length of which is recorded to have been 120 yards.* From this apartment the present *Hall* has been formed, which is of extensive proportions; its length being 180 feet, its height thirty-six, and its breadth fifty. Within it are some casts of busts from the antique; and whole-length portraits of the Archbishops, CRANMER, PARKER, WHITGIFT, BANCROFT, and LAUD; and of JOHN OVERALL, Bishop of Norwich; JOHN COSIN, Bishop of Durham; and LAUNCELOT ANDREWS, Bishop of Winchester. Many additions and alterations were made by succeeding prelates, and particularly by Bishop Tunstall, who erected a gateway and tower on the side of the Place Green, and flanked it on each side with a strong wall: he also built a small chapel, and made various other improvements. Additional apartments were erected by Bishop Cosin; and further alterations have been since effected, by which the internal arrangement and appearance

* In this apartment, on the enthronization of Bishop Bury, that Prelate entertained the King and Queen of England, the King of Scotland, the two Metropolitans, and five other Bishops; seven Earls, with their Ladies; all the Nobility north of Trent; with a vast concourse of Knights, Esquires, and other people of distinction; among whom were many Abbots, Priors, and other religious persons. *Hutchinson.*

ance of the buildings have been much amended. Under the direction of Shute Barrington, the present Bishop, new improvements have been made; and a most beautiful *Archway* in the gallery, supposed to have been stopt up several centuries, again opened, and repaired. This is one of the most perfect specimens of Anglo-Norman architecture extant; and may be regarded as unique, not only from the beauty of the pattern, but also from the “number of the mouldings, the variety of the ornaments, and the nicety of the workmanship.” Various paintings are distributed on the staircase, and through some of the apartments, but not any of them merit particular notice; the principal ornaments of this description being at the Palace at Bishop’s Auckland.

Contiguous to the keep, on the east, is the great *North Gateway*, a very strong fabric, erected by Bishop Langley, and now used as the jail. The outward, or lower part, was defended by a gate and portcullis; within which is a recess, constructed with sallyports and galleries, for the annoyance of assailants, who might force the first gate: the upper part was secured by double gates. All the other gates of the city have been removed.

On the west side of the Place Green is the *Exchequer*, a strong square stone building, erected by Bishop Neville, about the year 1450. Adjoining it is the *Bishop’s Library*, built by Bishop Cosin, who also greatly contributed towards erecting the *Law Courts*, south of the Library, where the assizes, quarter sessions, &c. are held. The court for the trial of Crown causes was much enlarged in the year 1791. On the opposite side of the Green is an Hospital, or Alms-house, for eight poor men and women, founded by Bishop Cosin in the year 1666; and adjoining it, at each end, a School-house, rebuilt about the same period by the above Prelate, but originally endowed by Bishop Langley.

From the Place Green is an avenue leading to the public walks, called the *Banks*, which skirt the river, and were made, and are kept in repair, by the munificence of the Dean and Chapter. These celebrated walks “accompany the bending of the stream, and command several interesting peeps at the city, and its august ornaments, the Castle and Cathedral. The banks rocky and abrupt,

rupt, on one hand, and sloping gently to the river on the other, darkened by a solemn depth of shade, sequestered and retired, in the immediate neighbourhood of a busy scene of society, afford a retreat of the most beautiful and agreeable nature. The variety of the scenes which they open also is remarkable; deep glades, and solemn dells; scarred rock, and verdant lawn; sylvan glades, and proud castellated edifices. From the elegant new bridge, the last-mentioned feature is seen to great effect; the Castle and Cathedral blend their battlements and turrets together, and rise with inconceivable majesty from the sacred groves which clothe their rocky foundations. The combination here of trees and buildings, water and rock, home sylvan scenery and fine distance, is at once beautiful and grand.”*

The Bridge mentioned in the preceding extract, is an elegant structure, erected between the years 1772 and 1777, from the designs of Mr. George Nicholson, then architect to the Dean and Chapter, at whose expence it was built. The old bridge, which stood at some distance higher up the river, and was only of sufficient width for the crossing of foot passengers and horses, was carried away by a dreadful flood, that commenced on the afternoon of the sixteenth of November, 1771, and continued to rise till about one o'clock the next morning. By this time the body of water had become so immense, that the arches of Elvet Bridge, being partially choked up with rubbish, would not admit of its flowing off; and its weight forced down a long wall nearly adjoining. The torrent, then rushing forward with increasing velocity, acquired such a vast impetus, that scarcely any thing could withstand its pressure. Four arches of the bridge were swept away, and all the lower buildings of the city, garden walls, &c. either destroyed, or left in a very ruinous condition. When the flood abated, in the course of the day, all the low lands about Houghall, Shincliffe, &c. were strewed with the carcasses of drowned cattle, and the hedges covered with corn and hay, that had been washed down by the water; which rose eight feet, ten inches higher, than had ever been recorded in the annals of Durham. As scarcely

* Warner's Northern Tour, Vol. I.

scarcely any wet had fallen during several days, within many miles of the city, various reasons were assigned for this extraordinary inundation; but the most probable was, that it was occasioned by a violent, and almost incessant rain, which had deluged the western parts of the county, and its neighbourhood, near the sources of the river.

Besides the new Bridge, there are two others at Durham, called *Framwell-gate Bridge*, and *Elvet Bridge*. The former was erected by Bishop Flambard, about the year 1120, and is a very excellent piece of masonry. It consists of a "pier, and two elliptical arches, of ninety feet space, so flat as to be constructed on the quarter section of a circle, calculated to suit the low shores on each side." *Elvet Bridge* consists of nine or ten arches; it was built by Bishop Pudsey, and repaired in the time of Bishop Fox, who granted an indulgence to all who should contribute towards the expence: upon or near it were formerly two chapels, dedicated respectively, to St. James, and St. Andrew.

Independently of the Cathedral, Durham contains six churches; the principal of which is that dedicated to *St. Nicholas*, an ancient structure, situated on the south side of the market place. It consists of a nave and side aisles, with a square tower standing at the south-west angle. Here were the seats for the body corporate, and various city companies; but the whole building being now under repair, all the internal parts have been removed.

In the old register book of this parish, under the year 1592, is the following remarkable entry. "Simson, Arington, Fetherstone, Fenwicke, and Lancaster, *were hanged for being Egyptians.*"*

The causes of this, apparently, detestable procedure, can only be understood from a retrospective view of the different acts under which they suffered. By the first, passed in the twenty-second year of Henry the Eighth, the Egyptians are thus described:

"Forasmuch

* In another part of the register, the same event is recorded in these words: "1592, Simson, Arington, Fetherstone, Fenwicke, and Lancaster, *EGYPTIACI, suspensi fuerunt anno supradicto, August 8.*

“ Forasmuch as before this time, divers and many outlandish people, calling themselves Egyptians, using no craft, nor feate of merchandise, have commen into this realm, and gone from shire to shire, and place to place, in great companies, and used great subtiltie and craftie meanes to deceive the people, bearing them in hand that they, by palmestrie, could tell mens’ and womens’ fortunes, and so many times, by craft and subtiltie, have deceived the people of their money ; and also have committed many and hainous felonies, and robberies, to the great hurt and deceit of the people that they have commen among: Bee it,” &c. It is then enacted, that no such persons be permitted to enter the realm, under the penalty of forfeiture of all property, and of subsequent imprisonment, should they remain in the kingdom longer than fifteen days after the *cōmaundement*.

This act being inadequate to its purpose, as appears from the preamble of the statute of the first and second of Philip and Mary, cap. 4, which commences thus: “ Forasmuch as divers, calling themselves Egyptians, not fearing the penaltie of the statute 22 Henry 8, cap. 10, have come over again into this realm, using their *old, accustomed, divellish, and naughty* devices, with such *abominable living* as is not in any christian realm to be permitted,” &c. it was then ordained, that any one “ transporting, bringing, or conveying in, any such persons,” should forfeit forty pounds for every such offence ; and that every *Egyptian* so brought into this realm, who should continue “ by the space of one monech,” should suffer death. The same punishment was also decreed against all Egyptians, or *persons commonly called Egyptians*, that should be found within England and Wales *forty days* after proclamation of the act ; unless the said persons should “ leave that naughty, idle, and ungodly life and company.”

Early in the time of Elizabeth, a doubt had arisen, whether the penalties of the statute of Philip and Mary extended to persons “ borne within the Queene’s dominions, and being of that fellowship, by disguising their apparell, and counterfeiting their speech and behaviour ;” to remove which, it was enacted, (anno 5 Eliz. cap. 20,) that every person who shall associate “ in any

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company,

companie, or fellowship of vagabonds, commonly called, or calling themselves Egyptians, &c. and doe continue and remaine in the same, either at one time, or at several times, by the space of one moneth, shal therfore suffer paines of death." No further particulars of the persons mentioned in the register are known; though their names warrant the supposition of their having been born in this country.

The Church of *St. Mary-le-Bow*, or *Bough*, is situated on the east side of the North Bailey; according to tradition, on the same spot where St. Cuthbert's remains were lodged, in a tabernacle of boughs and wands, when they were first brought by the monks to Durham. The present edifice was built about the middle of the seventeenth century, and opened for divine service in the year 1685: it is a neat, uniform building, without aisles, and furnished with a good organ.

St. Oswald's Church is an ancient structure, occupying a fine elevated situation on the eastern banks of the river, in that part of the suburbs, called New Elvet: it consists of a nave, chancel, and side aisles. The roof is of wood, curiously vaulted, jointed with rose knots; the rafters sustained on brackets, ornamented with cherubs, bearing shields: this is supposed to have been constructed by William de Catten, who was vicar in the year 1411; but the body of the edifice must have been built long prior to that period, as one Dolsinus occurs as priest here so early as 1156. In the windows is a great quantity of painted glass, but much mutilated.

St. Giles's Church is, apparently, of remote origin; it having no aisles, and much resembling the old church at Jarrow, being narrow, long, and lofty: its length is thirty paces, and its width seven. On the south side are six irregular windows; and on the north side, two. In the chancel is a recumbent effigy, cut in wood, traditionally said to belong to one of the *Heath* family, buried here in 1591. It represents a male figure in complete armour, the hands elevated, and the head resting upon an helmet, with a bear's paw for the crest. On one of the bells is said to be an

an inscription in Saxon characters. The views from the church-yard have been thus described by Mr. Hutchinson.

“ The traveller who is conducted to this church, should be admitted at the north door, and depart from the south door, where a noble prospect opens to the view, too extensive for a picture, and too rich for description. The inadequate ideas which language can convey, are to be lamented by the reader who has a taste for rural beauties, and the elegance of landscape. The Church of St. Giles stands upon very elevated ground, open to the south, where the view is unobstructed. In front, the meadow grounds form a steep descent to the river; on one wing closed by the wood called Pelaw Wood; on the other, by the buildings of the street. At the foot of the hill the river Wear forms a beautiful canal, almost a mile in length, terminated by Elvet Bridge to the right, and by the wooded inclosures of Old Durham on the left. On the opposite shore is the *Race Ground*, consisting of an extended tract of level meads, from whence, by a gradual ascent, rise the two Elvets; the street of Old Elvet running parallel, the other obliquely, bordered with gardens, and terminated by Elvet Church; a handsome structure. The channel of the river lying between New Elvet and the Bailies, affords an agreeable break or change in the objects; the sloping gardens being seen over the buildings of Elvet, softened to the eye with that pleasing tint which the distance produces. On the brink of the ascent stands the Bailies, object rising gradually above object, guarded with the remains of the town wall, and crowned with the cathedral church, which in this view presents the north and east fronts, like the mitre which binds the temples of its prelate; giving the noblest supreme ornament to the capital of the principality. To the right Elvet Bridge, with seven arches, receives the stream, and intercepts a further view of the progress of the river: over it, tier above tier, rise the buildings of Sadler-street, the gloomy and solemn towers of the goal, and the battlement and octagonal tower of the castle; the trophies of civil jurisdiction wearing the aspect of old secular authority, and the frowns of feudal power. Between the chief objects, the cathedral and castle, on the nearer

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back-ground,

back-ground, South-street, with its hanging gardens, makes a fine curvature; behind which Brandon Mount, with a spit of high land, extending towards Auckland, form the horizon. Further to the right, from the banks of the river, rise the buildings of the market-place, crowding the tower of the church, from whence the streets of Claypath and Gillygate extend. Thus far description has proceeded without much faltering; but in the other divisions of the scene it is faint, and totally inadequate: whoever would know the rest, must come and view it. Over the meadows, in the centre, a precipice rises nearly one hundred perpendicular feet in height, called Maiden Castle Scar, or Cliff; the steep sides of the hill to the right and left are covered with a forest of old oaks, and the foot of the cliff is washed by the river, whose stream appears again at this point. The lofty ridge of hills clothed with oaks, stretching away, forms a zigzag figure; at the most distant point of which, the great southern road, up the new inclosed grounds of Elvet Moor, is seen climbing the hill for near a mile, beyond which very distant eminences form a blue-tinged horizon. To the left of Maiden Castle Cliff you look upon a rich valley, highly cultivated, extending nearly five miles in length, and two in width, bending to the south-west, through which the river winds its silver stream, in the figure of an S. Hanging woods shut in each side of the nearer vale, where are finely disposed, the pleasant village of Shincliff, its bridge of three arches, the villa of the late William Rudd, Esq. and Houghall House. The extreme part of the valley is closed by the woods of Shincliff, Butterby, and Croxdale, forming an elegant amphitheatre; over these rise distant hills, lined out with inclosures, giving the yellow and brown tint to the landscape over the richer colored woods. The whole finished with an elevated horizon, on the wings of which are scattered the villages of Ferryhill and Merrington; the tower of Merrington Church forming a beautiful and lofty obelisk. One of the greatest excellencies of this landscape is, that the ground rises gradually before you, and just such a distance is maintained as preserves all the objects distinct; not like the landscapes painted by the Flemish and Dutch masters. To the left you look
down

down upon Old Durham House, its terraces and hanging gardens, with a fine bend of cultivated country stretching away through another opening of the hills towards the east, bounded by the high woods of Quarrington, and the cliffs of Coxhoe lime-kilns; more rustic than the other views, and being in simple nature, affords a pleasing variety to the eye of the man of taste, who stands (if we may be allowed the extravagant expression) *on this enchanted ground.*"

The Church of *St. Margaret*, situated in Crossgate, and of *Little St. Mary*, in the South Bailey, display nothing remarkable. The Meeting Houses are six: these are occupied by the respective denominations of Independants, Presbyterians, Quakers, Methodists, and Roman Catholics.

The *Market Place* is a small square, having a Guildhall, or Tolbooth, on the west side; a Pant, to supply the inhabitants with water, near the centre; and a Piazza, where the corn markets, &c. are held, on the south. The *Guildhall* was originally built by Bishop Tunstall, about the year 1555, but has since been repaired, and much improved: in the dining-room are portraits of CHARLES THE SECOND, and BISHOP CREWE. The *Pant*, or Conduit, is a stone building, of an octagonal form, with a statue of Neptune on the summit. The water is brought from an inclosed spring, about half a mile distant, originally given for the use of the city, in March, 1451, by Thomas Billingham, of Chokehagh, Esq. to John Laund, Alderman of the Guild of Corpus Christi, in the Church of St. Nicholas, and his successors, with leave "to convey the water to the pant, or reservoir, in the market-place, for the use and benefit of the inhabitants, paying for the use thereof to the said Thomas, and his successors, thirteen pence annually, on the feast of St. Martin; provided that no water should be drawn from thence to any other part of the city, except to the Grantor's house, in the market-place." On the twenty-first of July, in the same year, Bishop Neville confirmed the above grant, by letters patent, and gave permission "to the grantees to dig in his manor, for the purpose of laying and repairing the pipes, &c." When the inhabitants had enjoyed the bene-

fit of the spring nearly 186 years, Cuthbert Billingham, a descendant of the donor, broke up the pipes which conveyed the water to the pant, and directed its course to his own mills, at Crook-hall, alledging, that "the citizens had injured his corn and grass in coming to the spring, and also had withheld the annual payment of the thirteen-pence." On this, a bill of chancery was filed against him by the citizens, and the cause finally argued before Sir Richard Hutton, Knt. Chancellor of the Diocese, who confirmed the right of the citizens by a decree, dated March 30, 1637. The *Piazza*, or Corn Market, was constructed with the materials of an old cross, which stood near the conduit, and was removed in the year 1781.

A Dispensary was established, by subscription, at Durham, in 1785; and the contributions becoming extremely liberal, the trustees determined to extend the charity, by converting it into an *Infirmery*, where the sick poor should be admitted without expence, and a large, and more convenient building for that purpose, was completed about ten years ago, on a piece of ground in Allergate, given by Thomas Wilkinson, Esq. of Coxhoe. In 1790, an act was obtained for lighting, paving, and otherwise improving the city; and various judicious alterations have been effected under its clauses. In 1791, a small *Theatre* was built by subscription, in Sadler-gate; and during the course of the past year, a *Subscription Library* has been founded, which, to the honor of the literary character of the city, bids fair to become prosperous. The recreation of the inhabitants is further provided for by a *Race-Course*; which, from a curious entry* in the Parochial Register of St. Nicholas, appears to have been established as early as the reign of Charles the Second.

The original denomination of Durham, after its civil establishment, was that of Borough; and its local polity was exercised by a Bailiff, whose appointment remained with the Bishops. In the first

* "April, 1683. It is ordered, that Simon Lackenby is to keep, in lieu of his Entercommon Ground, one sufficient Bull for the use of the City and Borough Kyne, for three years next ensuing; and to give ten shillings towards a silver Plate for a Course."

first charter* of incorporation, which was granted by Bishop Pudsey, besides other considerable privileges, the inhabitants were discharged from the custom of *Marchet*, or right of the lord of the manor, to pass the first night with every new-made bride. Under Bishop Neville, the chief officer was styled, Bailiff of the *City of Durham*; and in the year 1565, by a new charter, granted by Bishop Pilkington, the civil jurisdiction was vested in an Alderman, and twelve assistant Burgesses. In 1602, Bishop Matthews, by another charter, vested the government in a Mayor, twelve Aldermen, and twenty-four Common-Councilmen; the latter to be chosen yearly by the Aldermen, from the twelve incorporated companies, in equal proportions. This charter was confirmed by James the First, and continued in force till 1684, when it was surrendered to Bishop Crewe, who immediately granted a new charter, but some informality having been discovered in the forms of surrendering the former one, that was again restored; and continued to direct the actions of the body corporate till the year 1761, when some election stratagems occasioned such divisions among the corporate officers, that the parties refused to act with each other, by which means the prescribed number of members could not be kept up, and the charter became vacated. From that time the city was governed by a Bailiff till the year 1780, when Bishop Egerton granted a new charter, dated October the second, in which its former government by a Mayor, Alderman, and Common-Councilmen, with some inferior officers, was re-established, and the rights of the citizens explained and confirmed.

Neither the county, nor the city of Durham, was represented in Parliament till the reign of Charles the Second, a circumstance which may undoubtedly be ascribed to the vast power and influence of the Bishop; as returning members to Parliament was anciently considered as more grievous and inconvenient, than either

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useful

* "Before any charter was granted for the government of the Burgesses, the several crafts who exercised their trades within the city, were, under special restrictions and bye-laws, framed among themselves, and confirmed by the Prelates in whose times they were respectively instituted." *Hutchinson.*

useful or honorable. The extension of learning induced ideas more favorable to liberty; and what was once avoided as a burthen, was afterwards demanded as a right. It was not, however, till the year 1673, that this privilege was awarded to Durham: an act was then passed, by which the city and the county were each authorized to send two members, and from that period the returns have been regularly made. The right of election for the city is vested in the Mayor, Aldermen, and Freemen: the number of voters is about 1000. Some illegal proceedings in the admission of freemen during a contested election, in the year 1762, occasioned the passing of the famous Durham act, by which all persons were restricted from voting who had not been "possessed of their franchise twelve calendar months before the day of election;" excepting those entitled to their freedom by the custom of the borough.

The trade of Durham is not extensive; a few years ago it had a woollen manufactory, which furnished employment to several hundred persons, but has since been wholly abandoned. It also possessed a large cotton manufactory, established by the Messrs. Salvin in the year 1796; yet this also, after greatly suffering by the war, has been entirely destroyed by an accidental fire, that commenced on the morning of the seventh of January, 1804, and in a few hours consumed the very extensive factory that had been built for carrying it on near St. Oswald's Church. The woollen business originated in a bequest made to the city of Durham by Mr. Henry Smith, on the twentieth of July, 1598, of all his coal mines, then of the annual value of 100*l.* and a personal estate worth 600*l.* The cause of this bequest, to use the words of the Will, was, "that some good trade may be devised for setting of the youth, and other idle persons to work, as shall be thought most convenient, whereby some profit may arise to the benefit of the said city, and reliefe of those that are past work." Some years afterwards the trustees commenced a cloth manufactory, which was discontinued in 1619; and a scheme devised to increase the value of the donation, by applying it to the purchase of land. In 1759, the proceeds were again appropriated to establish a cloth manufactory,

manufactory, and various buildings were erected for the convenience of the workmen, and reception of the machinery; but the establishment, as already mentioned, has since entirely failed: the Collieries have also been many years abandoned. Among various other bequests for charitable uses in this city, are those of Bishop Crewe, and Bishop Wood, of Lichfield: the former left 100*l.* per annum, for apprenticing the children of the poor; the latter, 20*l.* annually, for the relief of small debtors; and 100*l.* to be laid out upon a rent-charge, for the maintenance of the indigent inhabitants. The population of the "city and town of Durham," as returned under the late act, was 3319 males, and 4211 females.

With the eminent natives of this city, may be enumerated the present LORD AUCKLAND; and Dr. RICHARD GREY, author of several works, and particularly, the *Memoria Technica*, or New Method of Artificial Memory. He was born in the year 1693, and having received a learned education at Oxford, was promoted to several valuable benefices: his death occurred on the 28th of February, 1771, at the age of seventy-eight.

KEPIER HOSPITAL, on the banks of the Wear, about one mile north-east from Durham, was founded, in the year 1112, by Bishop Flambard, and endowed for the maintenance of a Master, and twelve Brethren. The endowments were afterwards confirmed by Bishop Pudsey, who also restored the buildings which had been consumed by fire in the reign of Stephen. At the Dissolution, its revenues were valued at 186*l.* 10*s.* 0*d.* and it was then granted to Sir William Paget, by Henry the Eighth. It afterwards came, by purchase, into the family of *Heath*, by whom it was sold, in the year 1658, to Ralph Cole, Esq. His son, Sir Nicholas Cole, again disposed of it to the families of Tempest, Carr, and Musgrave, whose descendants are yet owners. The only remain of the monastic buildings now standing is the Gateway, a strong and not unhandsome piece of masonry, with pointed arches.

About three quarters of a mile eastward from Durham, is OLD DURHAM, a spot supposed, by Mr. Hutchinson, to have been occupied by the Saxons previously to the foundation of the present city: and by Mr. J. Cade, in a tract published in the seventh
volume

volume of the *Archæologia*, to have been a Roman station. The latter supposition is not supported by sufficient evidence, as the appearance of the ground alone by no means warrants the conclusion of its having been occupied as a Roman camp. Some deep trenches, and earthen banks, may be seen; but the whole by far too irregular and imperfect, to furnish a distinct idea as to what might have been their original designation or figure. A more perfect work is remaining, on the brink of the river at a little distance, but on the opposite side. This is MAIDEN CASTLE, which occupies the summit of Maiden Castle Scar, and has been described thus. "The Castle is inaccessible from the river by reason of the steepness of the cliff, which is almost perpendicular, and about one hundred feet in height. On the right and left the steep sides of the mount are covered with a thick forest of oaks: the crown of the mount consists of a level area or plain, forty paces wide on the summit of the scar, on the front or north-east side; 160 paces long, on the left-hand side; and 170 paces on the right. The approach from the south-west is fortified with a ditch and breast-work: the entrance, or passage over the ditch, is not in the middle, but made to correspond with the natural rise of the outward ground: the ditch is twelve paces wide, and runs with a little curvature to each edge of the slope, now covered with wood, as before noted; on one hand being fifty paces in length, on the other eighty paces. After passing the ditch, there is a level parade, or platform, twenty paces wide, and then a high earth fence, now nine feet perpendicular, which it is apprehended was faced with mason-work: a breast-work has run from the earth fence on each side along the brink of the hill, to the edge of the cliff, or scar. The earth fence closes the whole neck of land, and is in length 100 paces, forming the south-west side of the area."* Dr. Stukeley, in his *Iter Boreale*, describes this work as follows: "Eastward over the river Wear, upon another peninsula of high ground, I saw a camp, called Maiden Castle, which I judge to be Roman. It is almost encompassed too, by a rivulet falling into the
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* Hutchinson's *Durham*, Vol. II. p. 310.

the river from the east. It is of an oblong form, 500 feet long, and very steep on three sides; the neck is guarded by a rampart, and without that at some little distance by a ditch: the prospect is very large, more especially eastward."

Between two and three miles from Durham, eastward, stands **SHERBURN HOSPITAL**, founded by Bishop Pudsey, about the year 1180, for sixty-five poor Lepers, a Master, and other officers. The ancient buildings were destroyed by the Scots, but restored by Thomas de Hessewell, who held the office of Master between the years 1330 and 1339; and have since been rebuilt by Dr. Gregory, who was appointed Master in 1759. They stand in a very healthful situation, on the different sides of an inclosed area, containing about an acre of ground. The Master's House is a commodious dwelling, with pleasant gardens attached to it. The body of the Chapel is probably as ancient as the foundation: "it is lighted by three narrow windows on the south, under circular arches, and ornamented with small round pilasters, belted and capitalled like those in the east part of Durham Cathedral." From the constitutions framed by Bishop Pudsey, it appears, that the hospital was to receive both male and female lepers; each sex having their respective houses on the opposite sides of the area; and the brethren being permitted to elect their prior, and the sisters their prioress. "Each leper was to have a loaf and a gallon of beer daily; three days in the week flesh meat, and four days, fish; so that one dish of meat, fish, cheese, or butter, should serve two; but on great days, two dishes were to be provided, particularly on Quadragesima-day, when they were allowed fresh salmon, or other fish, if they could be had, for one dish; and on Michaelmas-day they were to have geese, a goose to every four. They were allowed yearly, three yards of woollen cloth, russet, or white, six yards of linen, and six yards of canvas, with other necessities, as trusses of straw and bundles of reeds, with four yole clogs for the vigils of our Saviour." By these and similar rules, the institution was governed till the time of Cardinal Langley, who finding that the revenues had been misapplied, obtained a faculty from Pope Eugenius the Fourth, empowering him to make new regulations.

regulations. His ordinances, dated July 22d, 1434, effected a considerable change in the original foundation; though not more, perhaps, than necessary; as at this period, the leprosy appears to have been nearly eradicated; and two lepers only, "*if they could be found,*" are directed to be admitted upon the establishment. To these thirteen poor people were to be added, "to be provided with meat and drink of ten-pence value every week, or ten-pence in ready money, at their own option, and have yearly the sum of 6 and 8 pence for fuel and clothes." On this foundation the hospital continued till the year 1584, when an act was passed for incorporating the brethren, and their successors, by the name of "The Master and Brethren of Christ's Hospital in Sherborne, near Durham:" the number of brethren was by the same act enlarged to thirty. Some additional statutes were made by Bishop Chandler in the year 1735; and under them the hospital is now governed. The in-brethren, fifteen in number, are each accommodated with a neat room, a sufficiency of wholesome diet, a suit of clothes annually, and forty shillings in money: the out-brethren, who are also fifteen, are allowed a similar sum. The present Master is the Bishop of Rochester, who holds it in commendam.

About one mile south-east from Durham, is SHINCLIFFE HALL, the seat of Robert Scott, Esq. This mansion is sheltered by a beautiful amphitheatre of hanging woods, excepting towards the south-west, which opens upon the river Wear, and a rich expanse of meadows. On the opposite side of the river to Shincliffe, is HOUGHALL, an ancient manor-house, erected by Prior Houghton, and forming part of the prebendal estates of Durham. This building has been surrounded by a moat, and otherwise fortified; and, according to authenticated reports, was possessed by Sir Arthur Hazelrigge during the Civil Wars, and for some time became the residence of Oliver Cromwell.

The manor of BUTTERBY, about two miles south from Durham, was part of the ancient possessions of the *Lumleys*, of Lumley Castle; from whom it probably passed as a portion with Margaret, daughter of Ralph Lumley, who married Sir John Clervaux, of Croft. Her daughter, the heiress of Clervaux, was wedded to

Christopher

Christopher Chaytor, who was found possessed of Butterby, or, as it was then called, *Beautrove*, in the eighth year of Queen Elizabeth. In the year 1695, an act was obtained to vest certain lands, the property of Sir William Chaytor, Bart. in Yorkshire and Durham, that they might be sold to discharge debts, and secure portions for younger children. Under this statute, Butterby was sold, in 1713, to Thomas, John, and Humphrey Doubleday; and soon afterwards, by purchase, became the sole property of the latter; save one third of the produce of the salt springs, which was reserved to the use of John and his heirs. Humphrey's widow devised the manor upon trust to be sold; and about twelve or fourteen years ago it was purchased by Mr. Ward, of Sedgefield.

The Manor-House, which stands in a low and recluse situation, near the banks of the Wear, is encompassed by a moat walled round, which, though now dry, can be filled with water to the depth of fifteen feet. In cleansing this moat, some years since, a coat of mail, with other armour, was discovered in a large stone trough; and in an adjacent field, in which an ancient hospital, dedicated to St. Leonard, is supposed to have stood, many stone coffins, and jars for holy water, have been dug up. The grounds belonging to this manor are remarkably fertile: "the river near the house falls swiftly over a rough channel, under high rocky shores and hanging-woods, forming a canal a mile in length, where the adjacent lands make a considerable plain. There is not a sweeter rural scene in the whole county, unadorned, and in simple nature; for art has not yet extended her hand hither, further than in the ordinary course of agriculture. This place is as remarkable for its natural curiosities as its beauty: surrounded with the river, from the fissure of a rock in the bed of the channel, about forty feet from the shore, flows a considerable spring of salt water, mixed with a mineral quality. The situation of the spring subjects it to a mixture of fresh water, so that it is difficult to know how much salt it contains in its purest state: on several trials, it has yielded double the quantity produced from sea-water. The shore, for a considerable distance, shows many ouzings, or small

issues of salt water; and by a dyke, or break in the rocks in the channel of the river, a little above the spring, it is presumed a rock or bed of salt might be won* of some value. This water is reputed to be an effectual remedy for diseases caused by the deleterious fumes arising in smelting and refining-houses belonging to the lead-works. Half a pint is sufficiently purgative for the strongest person."† In a small rift or dell nearly opposite the salt spring, and within the distance of two hundred yards, is a sulphureous spring, a chalybeate spring, and a spring of fresh water, all issuing through the fissures of the neighbouring rocks. The two former, as appears from an account communicated by Mr. Hugh Todd, and published in the Philosophical Transactions, were discovered by some workmen who were employed in boring for coal. At the depth of twelve fathoms and a half, they discovered the Sulphureous spring: they tried the rock about 100 yards distant, and at nearly the same depth found the spring of Fresh water. Both these springs issue through the holes made by the instruments. The Chalybeate spring was probably opened but lately, when a narrow road was cut through the dell for the use of a stone quarry.

On some elevated ground between Butterby and Durham, is a modern PLANTATION, belonging to the Dean and Chapter, covering an extent of about nine acres. This spot is intended as a nursery for the supply of the prebendal estates, and some millions of young trees are annually sent away, and re-planted. Trees of almost every variety of oak, beech, larch, pine, fir, ash, &c. are here produced; and the attention paid to their growth, to the arrangement of the beds, and to every concern necessary to the improvement of the Plantation, merits the highest praise.

CROXDALE HALL, the seat of William Salvin, Esq. about one mile to the south of Butterby, occupies a lofty situation near the banks of the Wear, and commands a rich prospect towards the

* *Won* is a term employed by the miners of this and the adjacent counties, to signify the actual *possession* or working of the ore.

† Hutchinson's Durham, Vol. II. p. 325.

the south-west. The pleasure grounds are beautiful, and the adjacent wood and plantations, render it a very desirable residence. The manor of Croxdale came into the hands of the *Salvins* prior to the year 1474, and has ever since continued in their possession; a circumstance hardly to be paralleled in the history of any family in the county. In the inscription upon the monument of Jarrard Salvin, in St. Oswald's Church, he is said to be, *vicesimus primus (sine intermissione) ejusdem nominis fuit et loci*. He died in the year 1663: William, the present possessor, is the twenty-fifth in uninterrupted succession. Round the western extremity of the pleasure grounds flows a small rivulet, named *Croxdale Beck*; the channel of which is a romantic dell so deep and narrow, that the sun's rays are nearly excluded through the whole year; and in the days of superstition it was thought a fit abode for evil spirits. This idea occasioned the erection of a cross, which afterwards gave name to the adjacent lands, called *Croixdale*, in several old writings.* *Croxdale Scâr*, a neighbouring cliff, commands a very beautiful and extensive prospect of the valley towards the west, through which the river is seen meandering to an extent of several miles. The vale of Butterby, belted round by the crystal waters of the Wear, is also beheld from this spot, besides other pleasing views on its different sides.

BURNHALL, formerly the seat of the *Smiths*, by one of whom, George Smith, Esq. many improvements were made, is now the property of Bryan Salvin, Esq. The mansion is situated in a low and reclusive spot on the borders of a rivulet called the *Browney*, which falls into the Wear a little below Sunderland Bridge.

MERRINGTON is a long, irregular village, occupying a lofty situation on the ridge of a hill. The first mention of this place occurs during Cumin's usurpation of this See, when his nephew filled the tower of the Church with armed men, and began to fortify it with a ditch and vallum. The Church has many appearances of antiquity, and was built in the form of a cross, with a
tower

* Hutchinson's Durham, Vol. II. p. 331.

tower rising from the centre of four aisles. The west side of the tower is sustained on a heavy circular arch, supported on buttresses: the east side is also sustained on a similar arch, but this springs from clustered columns, ornamented with rude Saxon capitals. The tower is a massive pile, about sixty feet high, having small windows, with circular arches. "The prospect from Mer-rington Church is at once wonderfully extensive and beautiful: the hill on which it stands is a ridge, or long mount, rising with a gradual ascent from the north and south, so as to command the finest landscapes within the county of Durham, expanded to the eye in a kind of bird's eye view, by reason of the loftiness of the mount. The eastern end of the ridge, being bounded with hills of almost equal eminence, affords but a short prospect; the western termination is at the village of Westerton, distant about a mile. The valley through which runs the river Wear, lies open to the view, graced with the elegant scenes near Bishop Auckland, extended up to Witton, and along the winding channel of the river almost as far as Wolsingham: to the right is Brancepeth Castle, and its environs; to the left, the prospect is bounded by the distant eminence of Cockfield-fell, above Raby. On the north, in the bosom of the vale, with majestic aspect, rises the city of Durham, graced with a variety of woodlands; on every side the city, villages, seat-houses, and hamlets, are scattered; and the view is terminated by the mounts of Penshaw and Warden-low, which make an elegant break on the horizontal line. To the south-west, the Yorkshire hills above Barmingham, form the horizon, southward of which, is the spacious plain, wherein Northallerton and Thirsk lie; and with a glass it is said, Crake Castle and York Minster are discoverable: Hamilton, and Cleveland hills extend eastward, stretching their cultivated skirts into the vale of Tees: the pike of Roysbury, all the chain of mountains to Hunscliff, and the environs of Flamborough-head, are comprehended in the prospect, together with the Tees mouth, and a wide expanse of sea. On the intermediate ground, Sedgefield, Hardwick, and the sweep of country to Elwick and the Beacon are distinctly seen; the scene narrows towards the north, yet many other objects are beautifully

tifully disposed in the valley."* The number of houses in this township is 61, of inhabitants 228.

Nearly two miles south from this village is WINDLESTON, the hospitable seat of Sir John Eden, Bart. whose ancestors were resident here in the time of Queen Elizabeth. The estate was formerly divided among many families, but has been aggregated by different purchases. The mansion is situated on a gentle ascent, with an eastern aspect: it contains a small though valuable collection of antiquities.

EAST, or OLD THICKLEY, formerly the inheritance of the *Lilburns*, gave rise to a very contested law-suit between Ralph Clenton and Richard Lilburn, in the year 1638, when, on a question of right prosecuted in the court of pleas at Durham, *battle was waged*; but suspended through a point which arose in the proceedings, and occasioned a reference to the King in Council, and afterwards to the twelve Judges. The respective champions appeared in array, and cast their gauntlets; their weapons being battons with sand-bags.† The dissensions in the Parliament, and subsequent occurrence of the Civil Wars, appear to have put a stop to the further trial of the cause. Richard Lilburn was father to the celebrated Lieutenant Colonel JOHN LILBURN, who was born on this estate in the year 1618; and being a younger son, was bred a clothier, but abandoned his profession in 1636, and became assistant to Dr. Bastwick. Under his direction he went to Holland, and superintended the printing of the *Merry Liturgy*, for which, and other presumed offences, he was, on his return, pilloried, whipped, fined, imprisoned, and loaded with irons, by order of the tyrannical court which assembled in the Star-Chamber. In the year 1641, he was released by the Parliament, in whose cause he became a distinguished soldier; and in 1644 was advanced to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. His undaunted spirit,

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rit,

* Hutchinson's Durham, Vol. II. p. 327.

† See Rushworth's Collections, Part II. and also Hutchinson's Durham, Vol. II. p. 341, wherein it is observed, that the Battons, &c. were in the possession of the late Mr. Ralph Hodgson.

rit, and persevering exertions in defence of the interests of liberty, to which he was attached with enthusiastic warmth, occasioned him many sufferings. From the confidant and secret friend of Cromwell, he became his accuser and enemy, when the former began to violate the principles which he had flown to arms to support. Firm and unbending in his politics, he was twice tried for high treason, but acquitted by the juries; whose authority he boldly vindicated, in expressions ever congenial to British freedom. "The Jury," he observed, "by law, *are not only judges of the fact, but of the law also*; and you that call yourselves *judges of law*, are no more *but* Norman intruders; and, in truth, if the JURY please, are no more *but cyphers to pronounce their verdict*." After his second trial, he was ordered to leave the kingdom, but obtained permission to remain, on his brother becoming security for his peaceable behaviour. He afterwards settled at Eltham, where he attached himself to the Quakers, and died at the age of thirty-nine. His character has been diversely estimated. Hume represents him as the "most turbulent, but most upright and courageous of human kind;" and Sir Henry Martin, as of such a contentious disposition, that, "if there were none living but him, *John* would be against *Lilburn*, and *Lilburn* against *John*." These strong expressions, when qualified by the consideration of his actions, can only be understood as characteristic of the firm energy, and inflexible perseverance, that distinguished his defence of conceived principles. Equally inimical to the unconstitutional dogmas of prerogative, and the illegal exertions of parliamentary usurpation, his conduct has been misrepresented by both parties; yet, under an unprejudiced review, it would appear to be far more deserving of praise than of censure.

AYCLIFFE, or GREAT AYCLIFFE, a village of considerable antiquity, situated on the high road between Darlington and Durham, was part of the ancient possessions of the See of Lindisfarne, and assigned, with other lands, according to Symeon Dunelmensis, by Bishop Aldune, to the Earls of Northumberland, towards supporting the wars of those times, and were not for several ages restored to the Church. Bishop Flambard received a confirmatory

matory grant of Aycliffe from the Crown, specifying that it was one of the places injuriously claimed by the Northumbrians against St. Cuthbert and the See. Here, according to the Saxon Chronicle, a synod was held in the year 782; and another in 789. The Church occupies an elevated site, at some distance from the village southward, and had anciently a Guild dedicated to St. Mary the Virgin: the Church is dedicated to St. Acca. The number of houses in this township, as returned under the late act, was 109; of inhabitants 640.

DARLINGTON.

DARLINGTON, a large and populous town, of remote origin, and a borough by prescription, is situated on the side of a hill gently inclining to the east, at the foot of which flows the river *Skern*, over which is a bridge of three arches. The etymology of its name has been differently given; but if the circumstance is true, that the Skern was anciently called the *Dar*, or *Der*, it may then be derived from that word, from the Saxon *Inge*, signifying a meadow bordering upon a river; and *Ton*, a ville or town. It consists of several streets, branching from an extensive square in which the market is held; and has a clean and respectable appearance.

Soon after the episcopal See was established at Durham, in the time of King Ethelred, Stere, a nobleman, the son of Wulph, obtained permission from the King, that *Derlington*, with its appendages, should be restored to St. Cuthbert, to which restitution, the King, Wulston, Archbishop of York, and Bishop Aldwine, became witnesses.* When Bishop Carilepho removed the Seculars from the Cathedral at Durham, this town was appointed one of the places for their reception.

In the Bolden Buke, Darlington is thus particularly noticed. "It then contained forty oxgangs of land in the hands of villain tenants, for each of which the lord received five shillings; their

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service

* Lelandi Col. Vol. II. p. 377.

service consisted of mowing the Bishop's meadows, winning and leading the hay, for which work they received a corody; inclosing the limits of the court, whence the term, "Verge of the Court." They were also to work at the mill, to bring one load of wood for every oxgang, to carry the Bishop's baggage on his circuit, and also to convey to him yearly three loads of wine, herrings, and salt. Twelve other tenants held each an oxgang of land, and paid rent as villains, but only served as attendants on the Bishop's embassies. The Smith held eight acres, for iron-work about the carts of Little Walton, and for small iron-works within Darlington Court. The Cottage-men served to make the ricks of hay, bear in the corn, and repair the mills. The Pinder held nine acres of land, and had his thraves, like others, in that office, and provided five score hens, and five hundred eggs, for the household. The mills of Darlington, Haughton, and Kelton, paid thirty marks. The burgagers, dyers, and farmers, rendered ten marks." The *ferme*, or *firma*, our best law expositors define to be a royal tribute, for the sovereign's entertainment for one night on his journeys, and it was the badge of a royal borough or ville.

In the survey taken by Bishop Hatfield, it appears that the tolls of fairs and markets, with the profits of the mills, suits of the tenants of Whestow, bakehouse, assize of bread and beer, profits of the borough court, and of the dyers, produced no less a sum than 90*l.* and the farmers of the borough rights, with other receipts, paid a rent of fourscore and fourteen pounds, six shillings. Bishop Beck inclosed a park belonging to the manor; and several persons of high rank held lands in Darlington.

The principal ornament of Darlington is the Church, which stands at the south-west angle of the Market-Place, and was erected by Bishop Hugh Pudsey, about the year 1160. Between that period and 1164, the same Prelate built a mansion-house near the Church; and also instituted a Deanery, with three secular Canons or Prebendaries. These works he is supposed to have effected with the vast sums of public money which he had rigorously extorted for the purpose of redeeming the King from captivity, but appropriated to his own coffers. When the Col-

lege of Prebendaries was dissolved in the reign of Edward the Sixth, A. D. 1550, notwithstanding the opulence of the foundation, and the extent of the parish, only a small portion was reserved for the maintenance of a minister; the net produce amounting to no more than 22l. 6s. 8d. annually.

The Church is a spacious structure, in the form of a cross, with a tower and spire rising from the centre, to the height of 180 feet: the stone of which it is built, is supposed to have been brought from Cockfield-fell, a distance of about twelve miles. The tower springs from uniform arches, sustained on clustered pillars; the arches of the nave and aisles are irregular; and the whole interior view is greatly disfigured by the disposition of the pews and galleries. "The west door is highly finished with archings and pilasters, cylindrical and octagonal interchangeably." Previous to the Dissolution, in this edifice were four chantries; one of which, called Marshall's Chantry, was amply endowed; and the endowments having been vested in the Crown, were, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, granted by that Sovereign for the foundation of a Grammar-School, through the solicitations of Henry, Earl of Darlington, and Bishop Pilkington, whose influence the inhabitants had besought for that purpose. The charter was granted on the 15th of June, 1567; and a portrait of the Royal foundress, with the charter in her hand, was placed in the School, by the late George Allan, Esq. F. S. A. as a memorial of his gratitude in having received part of his education there. The School, as well as the building formerly the Bishop's Palace, is situated near the margin of the river: the latter having become very ruinous, was repaired by Bishop Cosin; but having since his time been totally neglected, is now farmed of the Bishop's housekeeper (who holds it by patent for life) as a Workhouse for the poor. Numerous charitable donations have been made in this parish, but not of sufficient importance to be here particularized.

The happy situation of Darlington, its large market, which is abundantly supplied with corn, cattle, sheep, wool, &c. and the cheapness of provisions, render it a sort of emporium for manufac-

tures. The woollen business is very flourishing; particularly the ordinary kind of stuffs, as tammeys, morreens, &c.

Here is also a large manufactory of linens of different descriptions, and particularly, diapers, huckabacks, and checks: and the cotton manufacture has lately been introduced, and is at present in a flourishing state, under the direction of Mr. John Morrell, to whom the town is much indebted for his exertions in favor of this establishment.

Near the town, a mill has been erected for the grinding of optical glasses; this was the first of the kind ever constructed in Great Britain, and, together with another mill for spinning hemp and flax, was invented by the late ingenious JOHN KENDREW, a native of Darlington: here is also a third mill for spinning wool, by which, and the various manufactories, the laboring poor are well supplied with employment.

The improvement of agriculture has been pursued with considerable success in the environs of Darlington; chiefly through the patronage of a respectable society of gentlemen, who hold their meetings in the town, and vote premiums according to merit. About the year 1767, a navigable canal was projected to lead from Stockton, by Darlington, to Winston, a length of about thirty miles, with various side cuts; the estimated expence was 63,000*l*. a sum which it was clearly proved might have been soon returned with vast increase; but the plan was abandoned, from the opposition of some individuals, whose amusements the proposed cut would in some measure have interrupted. Darlington, according to the late act, contains 945 houses, and 4670 inhabitants: of the latter 2158 are males, and 2512 females.

GRANGE HALL, or BLACKWELL GRANGE, the seat of George Allan, Esq. is pleasantly seated about one mile south from Darlington, of which, and of the adjacent country, it commands some very fine views. The Mansion is a respectable modern building, and contains a very extensive museum of natural history, and other curiosities, which the late possessor, and learned antiquary, George Allan, Esq. purchased for 700*l*. of Mr. Tunstall, late of Wycliff, in Yorkshire, who collected it at a vast expence.

experience. The Library is also extremely valuable in topography and antiquity, and contains a great quantity of manuscript information on this county, whose history the late Mr. Allan was extremely attentive to investigate, and was the original promoter of Mr. Hutchinson's elaborate publication. A small, but valuable, assemblage of paintings, are distributed through the different apartments.

At the distance of about three miles from Darlington, at Oxen-hall, are cavities in the earth, denominated HELL KETTLES; to the origin of which are attached many fabulous conjectures. The chronicles of Tinemouth Priory, and Brompton, inform us, "that A. D. 1179, upon Christmas-day, at Oxenhall, in the outskirts of Darlington, in the bishopric of Durham, the earth raised itself up to a great height in the manner of a lofty tower, and remained all that day till the evening, (as it were fixed and immoveable,) when it sunk down with such a horrid noise, that it terrified all the vicinity; when the earth absorbed it, and there formed a deep pit." Camden supposes that these pits were sunk in consequence of the convulsion above mentioned: and Leland, in his Itinerary, Vol. VI. says, "that Dr. Bellasis told him, that a Dukke, markid after the fascion of dukkes of the bishoprike of Duresme, was put in into one of the pooles called Hel Ketelles, betwixt Darlington and Tesebank, and after was found at **** bridge, upon Tese, thereby, wher Gervalx (Croft, the seat of the Clervaux family) duellith, and that be it the people had a certain conjecture, that there was *specus subter* betwixt the ij places." In the records of Bishop Skirlaw, who entered upon the See in the year 1389, there is mention of certain lands called *Hell*, which afterwards became the possession of the Evers: it is not improbable that the pools took their name from this land; and as the monastic chronicles above quoted, were not so ancient as the event recorded of the convulsion, the chroniclers could only have rehearsed the traditional tale which then prevailed.* Many conjectures as to the *real* origin of these pits have been formed: it has been supposed they were the

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shafts

* Hutchinson, Vol. III. p. 191.

shafts of ancient coal-works; but this is extremely improbable, as the diameter of one of the largest is not less than 114 feet, and that of the least seventy-five. Mr. Hutchinson thinks they might have been marle-pits, as "they resemble the workings in other countries where marling is still practised;" though he acknowledges that "most marle and alum pits are wrought *much deeper* than six yards, while the depth of the largest pit here is only nineteen feet and a half; the next seventeen feet, the next fourteen, and the least five feet and a half." The properties ascribed to the water of these pits, are similar to those acquired by water standing in hollows whence marle has been obtained, which tastes pungent, and curdles milk and soap. Instead, however, of supposing them to have been marle pits, or of deducing their etymology from the old German NIE-HEL, with the above gentleman, we should incline to refer it to the British *hal*, an alkali, whence *halen*, salt; and *kiddle*, or *kidle*, a dam: *Hal-kiddles*; i. e. salt pits.*

HURWORTH, a pleasant village, three miles south of Darlington, is situated on the acclivity of a steep hill, rising from the Tees, and commanding a beautiful, though not extensive, view into Yorkshire. This was the birth-place of the celebrated mathematician, WILLIAM EMERSON, who was born in May or June 1701. The preceptor of his early years was his own father, of whom he learned writing and arithmetic, and probably the rudiments of Latin; but his fondness to books while a boy, by no means indicated those superior faculties which he afterwards exerted with so much energy. When his attachment to the amusements of childhood had subsided, which, according to his own report, was not till he had nearly attained the age of twenty, he began to study mathematics with much diligence, under the direction of able masters at Newcastle and York. On his return to Hurworth, he was again benefitted by the knowledge of his father, who was a tolerable mathematician, and without whose books and instructions, according to Emerson's observation, "it is probable his own genius would never have been unfolded."

Some degree of Emerson's celebrity may, perhaps, be attributed to the contemptuous treatment which he received from Dr. John-

son,

* See Owen's and Bailey's Dictionaries,

son, Rector of Hurworth, and Prebendary of Durham, whose niece he had married. The Doctor had engaged to give five hundred pounds with his niece, who lived with him, as a marriage portion; but when reminded of the promise, he chose to forget that it had been made, and treated our young mathematician as a person beneath his notice. "The pecuniary disappointment Emerson (who had an independent spirit, and whose patrimony, though not large, was equal to all his wants) would easily have surmounted, but the contemptuous treatment stung him to the very soul. He immediately went home, packed up his wife's clothes, and sent them to the Doctor, saying, that he would scorn to be beholden to such a fellow for a single rag; and swearing at the same time that he would be revenged, and prove himself to be the *better man of the two*." His first publication, however, did not meet with immediate encouragement; and most probably his other works would never have appeared, at least in the author's life-time, if Edward Montagu, Esq. his great admirer and friend, had not procured him the patronage of Mr. John Nourse, Bookseller and Optician, who being himself skilled in the more abstruse sciences, could comprehend, and reward the merit of another. He immediately engaged Emerson to furnish a regular Course of Mathematics for the use of youthful students; and in the summer of 1763 Emerson made a journey to London, to settle and fulfil the agreement.

His knowledge of classical learning was not extensive; yet the mottos to some of his volumes evince that he sometimes dipped into ancient authors. At one time, also, he conceived an intention of translating the Jesuits' comment on the Principia of Sir Isaac Newton, for whom his devotion was so uncommonly strong, that every oppugner of his philosophy was treated by Emerson, as dull, blind, bigotted, prejudiced, or mad. The fire and impetuosity of his temper, would on these occasions betray him into language of far distant analogy to the strictness of mathematical demonstration.

Mr. Emerson was in person something below the common size, but firm, compact, well made, very active, and strong. He had
a good

a good open, expressive countenance, with a ruddy complexion, a keen and penetrating eye, and an ardour and eagerness of look, that was very demonstrative of the texture of his mind. His dress was grotesque frequently; sometimes, mean and shabby. A very few hats served him through the whole course of his life; and when he purchased one, (or indeed any other article of dress,) it was perfectly indifferent to him, whether the form and fashion of it was of the day, or of half a century before. One of these hats, of immense superficies, had, by length of time, lost its elasticity, and its brim began to droop in such a manner, as to prevent his being able to view the objects before him in a direct line: this was not to be endured by an optician; he therefore took a pair of sheers, and cut it off by the body of the hat, leaving a little to the front, which he dexterously rounded into the resemblance of the nib of a jockey's cap. His wigs were made of brown, or of a dirty flaxen-colored hair, which at first appeared bushy and tortuous behind, but which grew pendulous through age, till at length it became quite straight, having probably never undergone the operation of the comb: and either through the original mal-conformation of the wig, or from a custom he had of frequently thrusting his hand beneath it, the back of his head and wig seldom came into very close contact. His coat, or, more properly, jacket, or waistcoat with sleeves to it, which he commonly wore without any other waistcoat, was of a drab color: his linen was more calculated for warmth and duration than for show, being spun and bleached by his wife, and woven at Hurworth. In cold weather he had a custom of wearing his shirt with the wrong side before, and buttoned behind the neck: yet this was not an affectation of singularity, (for Emerson had no affectation, though his customs and manners were singular,) he had a reason for it; he seldom buttoned more than two or three of the buttons of his waistcoat, leaving all the rest open: in wind, rain, or snow, therefore, he must have found the aperture at the breast inconvenient, if his shirt had been put on in the usual manner. When he grew aged, in cold weather, he used to wear what he called shin-covers; these were pieces of old sacking, tied with strings above the knee, and de-

pending down to the shoe, in order to preserve his legs from being scorched when he sat too near the fire.

This singularity of dress and figure, together with his character for profound learning, and knowledge more than human, occasioned the illiterate and ignorant to consider him as a cunning man, or necromancer, and various stories have been related of his skill in the black art. His diet was as simple and plain as his dress; and his meals gave little interruption either to his studies, employments, or amusements. He catered for himself, and pretty constantly went to Darlington to make his own markets; yet, when he had provided all the necessary articles, he not unfrequently neglected to return for a day or two, seating himself contentedly in some public-house, where he could procure good ale, and company, and passing the hours in various topics of conversation. "The last time he made an excursion to Darlington with his wallet, he made a figure truly conspicuous: this was, perhaps, the only time he ever rode thither, he was then mounted on a quadruped, whose intrinsic value, independent of the skin, might be fairly estimated at half a crown. Being preceded and led by a boy hired for that purpose, he paced in solemn state, at the rate of a mile and a half in an hour, till in due time he arrived at Darlington, and was conducted in the same state, to the great entertainment of the spectators, through the streets to the inn, where he wished to refresh himself and his beast. What idea Emerson himself entertained of the velocity with which the animal could move, appears from this, that, when a neighbour asked him, towards the evening, if he was going home; "Damn thee," said he, "what does thou want with my going home?" "Only," replied the man, "because I should be glad of your company." "Thou fool, thou!" rejoined the other, "thoul't be home long enough before me, man: thou walks, and I ride." His style of conversation was generally abrupt and blunt, abounding in similar expletives to the above, and often vulgar and ungrammatical. This occasioned a supposition that his prefaces were not written by himself, an opinion that was one day mentioned to him, and the disparity of his conversation and writing pointed out as the reason
of

of it. After a momentary pause, he exclaimed, with some indignation, "A pack of fools! who could write my prefaces but myself?" Indeed, when weighed with the vigor and energy of his mind, they bear every mark of legitimacy: they could have had no other father.

"Mr. Emerson often tried in practice the effect of his mathematical speculations, by constructing a variety of instruments, mathematical, mechanical, and musical, on a small scale. He made a spinning-wheel for his wife, which is represented by a drawing in his book of mechanics. He was well skilled in the science of music, the theory of sounds, and the various scales, both ancient and modern. He had two first strings to his violin, which he said made the E more melodious when they were drawn up to a perfect unison. His virginal he had cut and twisted into various shapes in the keys, by adding some occasional half-tones, to regulate the present scales, and to rectify some fraction or discord that will always remain in the tuning. This he never could get regulated to his mind, and generally concluded in a passion, by saying, "It is a damned instrument, and a foolish thing to be vexed with."

During the greatest part of his life, his health had been strong and uninterrupted; but as he advanced into the vale of years, internal complaints allowed him but little intermission of pain, and at length deprived him of breath on the twenty-first of March, 1782, in his eighty-first year. He was buried in the church-yard at Hurworth. About a twelvemonth before his decease, he was prevailed on, after much importunity, to sit for his portrait, which was taken by Mr. Sykes for his friend Dr. Cloudsley, of Darlington.*

SOCKBURN, a small parish, comprehending only the manor of the same name, is accurately described by Leland, as of "a mile cumpace, of exceeding pleasant ground, almost made an isle, as Tese ryver windeth about it. The house and land of Sockburn

* The chief particulars of the above sketch, were extracted from the Life of Emerson, published in a periodical paper, called the Englishman, about 1783.

burn hathe bene of auncient tyme the very inheritance of the *Coniers*." It is probable, observes Mr. Hutchinson, "that the manor of Sockburne was granted out early to one of the *Coniers* for some valiant action, as the following ceremony denotes, which is performed at this day on the Bishop of Durham's first entrance into the county.* The manor is held under the Bishop of Durham, by Knight's service, and the following ceremony.† At the first entrance of the Bishop, the Lord of Sockburne, or his agent, meets him in the middle of the river Tees, at Neesham, when the water is fordable, (otherwise on Croft Bridge,) when he presents a falchion to the Bishop, as an emblem of his temporal power, and repeats the following words.† "My Lord Bishop, I here present you with the falchion wherewith the champion Conyers slew the *worm, dragon, or fiery flying serpent*, which destroyed man, woman, and child; in memory of which, the King then reigning gave him the manor of Sockburne, to hold by this tenure, that, upon the first entrance of every Bishop into the county, this falchion should be presented." The Bishop then takes the falchion in his hand, and immediately returns it to the person that presented it, wishing the Lord of Sockburne, health, and a long enjoyment of the manor. In the ancient pedigree of the family of the *Coniers*, it is set forth that, "Sir John Conyers, Knt. who slew the
the

* "Vid. Inq. 20, R. 2, 1396—Vide Harleian M S S. No. 2118, Art. 2. Inq. p. m. John Coniers, chiv. d. s. in fee-tail to him and the heirs male of his body, of the manor of Sockburn, held of the Lord Bishop *in cap.* p. servie demonstrand. d'no epi unum fawchon. There is a drawing of this falchion in the Herald's Office, Durham Visitation. On the pommel are three lions of England, guardant: these were first borne by King John, so that this falchion was not made before that time; nor did the owner kill the dragon. The black eagle in a field Or (*also on the hilt*) was the arms of Morcar, Earl of Northumberland: this too might be the falchion with which the Earls might be invested, being girt with the sword of the Earldom." Hutchinson.

† "Anonym. to the author; said to be taken out of a M S. of John Calverly, Esq.—Sed vid. Dugd. Bar. v. 2. p. 290. Beckwith's Edit. Blount's Tenures, p. 199. It is most probable the dragon slain by Coniers, was some Danish Rover who was sacking and plundering the country." Hutchinson.

the monstrous, venomous, and poysonous *wyveron*, *ask*, or *worm*, which overthrew and devoured many people in fight, and the scent of the poison was so strong that no person might abide it, and hee, by p'vidence of Almighty God, overthrew it; and lyeth buried at Sockburn, before the Conquest; but before he did enterprise, went to the Church in complete armour, and offered up his sonne to the Holy Ghost; which monuments are yet to see: also the place where the serpent lay is called *Greystone*."

"How far the reader will give credit to this relation is not enquired; but certain it is, the family was settled here about the time of the Conquest, and were Barons of the palatinate; for Roger Coniers then held the same, and was by the Conqueror made Constable of Durham Castle, and Keeper of all the soldier's arms therein; and which office was settled on him and his heirs male for ever, by grant under the great seal of William de Carilepho, Bishop of Durham. They continued to hold the manor till issue male failing in Sir John Conyers, his daughter and heiress, Anne, married Francis Talbot, Earl of Shrewsbury, whose daughter and heiress married Stoner, of Stoner, in the county of Oxford, who sold Sockburne, with the manor of Bishopton, to Sir Edward Blakett, in whose family those possessions still continue. Bishop Bury granted free warren to Sir John Coigniers in his lands at Sockburn, &c. and Bishop Booth granted his licence to Sir Christopher Coniers, for fortifying his manor-house of Sockburn, and embattling and strengthening the same. A farm-house stands on or near the place where Sockburn-house formerly was: and the grey stone mentioned as the monument of Conier's victory over his dreadful enemy, is shown to the traveller in a field adjoining the Church, but without any other evidence than tradition, that there a dragon died."*

The tombs of the Coniers, lie in a porch on the north side of Sockburne Church. On one is a recumbent effigy in stone, supposed to represent Sir John Coniers who married "Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Bromflete, Lord St. John, and Bromflet."†

The

* Hutchins, Vol. III. p. 149.

† Leland.

The legs of the figure are crossed; the feet rest on a lion contending with a winged dragon: the right hand is in the act of unsheathing the sword; on the left is a shield, without device; the coat and helmet are of chain-work. Several other memorials of this family remain here; and among them a blue marble in the pavement, with the following inscription on a label of brass, at one end of which is a sword, at the other, a shield, with a maunch, the arms of Coniers.

*Hic jacet Joſes Conyers miles dñs de Solburn, qui obiit
nonodecimo die februarit A° Dñi M°. CCC°. nonageſimo
quarto cui's aie ppetiet deus. Amen.*

DINSDALE was the ancient seat of the *Surtees*, who settled here soon after the Conquest, and probably derived their name from the situation of their residence on the river's banks, *Sur-Tees*; i. e. upon Tees: they held the manor by military service of the Lord of Castle Barnard. The Manor-House was surrounded by a moat; its remains have been converted into a farm-house. Two parts of the manor became, by marriage, the property of the *Place* family; one of whom, MR. FRANCIS PLACE, was an artist of considerable eminence about the latter end of the seventeenth and beginning of the eighteenth century. He painted, designed, and etched; and was also a good mezzotinto engraver. His professional abilities was accompanied by great scientific knowledge; and Thoresby, in his *Ducatus Leodiensis*, informs us, that he discovered an earth for, and a method of making porcelain, which he put in practice at the mansion-house at York; and of which manufacture he gave Thoresby a fine mug. His disposition and pursuits induced a fondness for a rambling life; and though an annual salary of 500*l.* was offered him in the reign of Charles the Second, to engage his assistance in naval drawings, he refused to accept it, as he could not endure either confinement or dependence. He died in the year 1728: many sketches and drawings, which he made in various parts of Great Britain and Ireland, are still preserved in different collections.

EGGLESCLIFF

EGGLESCLIFF is a pleasant village, occupying an elevated point of land, rising from the Tees, and commanding a fine view of the opposite town of Yarm, in Yorkshire. The river is here crossed by a bridge of five arches, which, in wet seasons, occasions such a stoppage of the water, that the low lands are frequently overflowed, and great damage done, particularly on the Yorkshire side. To prevent similar occurrences, an elegant *cast Iron Bridge*, of one arch, has been designed, the foundation stone for which was laid on the north side of the river on the third of September, 1803; and the iron-work is now casting on a new plan, by the Messrs. Walkers of Rotherham, under the direction of the ingenious Mr. Thomas Wilson, who has obtained a patent for the invention. The span of the arch will be 180 feet, its height thirty-four feet, and its breadth twenty-seven feet. The expence of erecting it is estimated at 8000*l.* of which 4200*l.* is appropriated to the construction of the abutments, and the remainder for the iron-work: towards this sum the counties of York and Durham subscribe in equal proportions.

SADBERGE, a chapelry to Haughton, is a place of remote origin, and was anciently a county in itself, having its proper Sheriffs, Coroners, and other civil officers. In the time of Bishop Bury, it was divided into two wards, and had the privileges of a wapentake. "In the time of Bishop Langley, it was asserted, that Barnard Castle, Marwood, Cleathan, Eggleston, Langton, Middleton in Teesdale, Newbiggin, Stainton, and other places in the western extremity of Durham, were members of this wapentake. There was a gaol for prisoners in Salberge; and sundry manors and lands were held by the special service of maintaining the same, and supporting the prisoners."* Sadberge was originally the patrimony of the church, but withheld till Hugh Pudsey exchanged various manors in Lincolnshire for it with Richard the First. Lambarde, after mentioning this circumstance, observes, that "Satberge was at that tyme, and longe since, called a countye, conteyninge (as I think) the greatest portion of that which

* Hutchinson, Vol. III. p. 174.

which we now calle the Byshoprick of Durham. I heare of some gentlemn in that quarter, that, theare be dyvers fines yet extant, acknowledged before the Bishop in his *Court of Satberge*; and that the most part of the cuntrye resorted to courte thither, which gyveth me to thinke that it should be called SACBERGE, of *Sac*, and *byrig*, the Saxon words, which signifie the court of causes or pleas, from which signification Socburgh before is not muche different. It standethe upon a hil, and is now called Sedbergh, which *bergh* (the latter part of the worde) soundeth as muche in the Saxon, as *hill* now with us in Englishe, and thereof if any man like better to have it derived of *Sac-beosh*, that is, the court upon the hyll, or the hyll of plees, I give him as free liberatie as I myselfe would be gladd to enjoye in any such matter of conjecture.* Whatever was the former consequence of Sadberge, it is now an insignificant place, only worthy of notice from its former grandeur. The eminence on which it stands, rises on each side with an easy ascent, and commands a fine view over the south-east part of Durham, and up Tees-dale as far as the high grounds of Barnard Castle. The Chapel is built of stones apparently taken from the materials of more ancient structures. From the survey made by order of Bishop Hatfield, it appears that all the lands in Sadberge were formerly held by military service.

BISHOPTON is a small village, rendered memorable from having been the place where the brave Roger Coniers, of the Coniers family of Sockburn, successfully resisted the troops of William Cumin, who usurped the See in the twelfth century.† The spot chosen by Coniers for his strong-hold, is a small plain, to the east of the village, completely overlooked by an adjacent eminence. Here a conical *mount*, surrounded with trenches, and rising with a steep acclivity, is still remaining. To the north the ground is marshy, and capable of supplying the ditches with water: to the south it rises gently. The circumference of the

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mount

* Lambarde's Dictionary, p. 324.

† Vide p. 30. The See was afterwards restored to the real Bishop, through Cumin's unexpected contrition.

mount is about two hundred paces; its height about sixty feet perpendicular: the summit is nearly level, ten paces wide from north to south, and sixteen from east to west: not any marks of buildings are discoverable on the top.

ELSTOB, about two miles south-west from Bishop-ton, was the place where Ella, a Dane, first pitched his tents after landing at the mouth of the Tees; and its name is apparently derived from this circumstance; *Stob*, in the Saxon language, signifying a stake, or tent; hence Ella's Stob; and by contraction, Elstob. Tradition asserts, that he fought a battle at *Shotten*; that one of his chieftains died at *Morden*; and that at *Trimdon*, a village to the north, his men halted after the fatigues of battle, and were again *trimmed*.

HARDWICKE, the seat of Matthew Russel, Esq. about half a mile west of Sedgefield, is much celebrated in the north, for the beauty of its pleasure grounds, and the elegance of its ornamental buildings. These were the creation of the late John Burdon, Esq. who began his improvements about the year 1750: before that period, the grounds were scarcely more than a bog; and the lower side has even now a marshy appearance. Various alterations have been made by the present proprietor, which greatly redound to the credit of his taste. The inclosures of an estate lately purchased from the school of Rivington in Lancashire, have been removed, to connect it with the grounds of Hardwicke, which have also been thrown open towards the east, and several clumps of trees, and a serpentine plantation, contrived to embellish the view of the western side of Sedgefield. The entrance into the pleasure grounds has likewise been improved, and rendered more salubrious, and more cheerful. From the grand terrace, a fine gravel walk, about 560 paces in length, is a descent to a circular bason of water; and near its termination is the *Bathing House*, a building of the Doric order, having an open portico in front, leading to the bath, and apartments to breakfast and repose in, at the sides. Proceeding in a winding direction, the path conducts to the *Lake*, a sheet of water covering nearly forty-four acres; and uniting with a serpentine river or canal, which winds through the grounds, but neither displays the transparency of cry-

stal, nor the beauty of motion. Near the side of the canal is a building called the *Library*, in front of which is an artificial Cascade of little interest, the dashing of the fall being scarcely heard, though close by the feet. The interior of the library is furnished with a splendid collection of *painted* books, and the windows filled with painted glass, displaying,

“ The likeness of things so foul to behold,

“ That what they are is not fit to be told.”

The *Temple*, built on a circular eminence in a pleasant meadow, is quadrangular, with an open colonnade; the entablature is supported by columns of the Ionic order: in niches on the outside are placed eight busts of the most superior poets. The interior is eighteen feet square, having an octagonal dome, decorated with paintings by the Bornese, father and son. In the centre is Apollo presenting Pallas with a laurel wreath: at her feet are represented the Arts and Sciences. Below, in large compartments, are the Cardinal Virtues, with appropriate emblems; and in the corners are four arts, Music, Painting, Sculpture, and Architecture. In recesses between the windows, are medallions of the four Seasons, in stucco, by Cartisi. The floor is of mosaic-work, inlaid with different colored marbles. The *Ruin* is an artificial semblance of a demolished castle, with a round tower entire, from the summit of which is an extensive prospect: opposite the ruin is a statue of Neptune, raised on a pedestal in the midst of the river. The *Banqueting-House* is a superb building of the Corinthian order; containing one principal apartment, sixty-two feet in length, and about twenty-six feet in height and breadth. The ceiling is divided into various compartments: in the centre is an oval, with a representation of the assembly and banquet of the Gods, by Hayman; and in squares at the sides, the petition of Thetis to Jupiter, and Venus presenting the cestus to Juno, attended by the Loves and Graces. Above the doors are two paintings, by Hayman, representing the marriage of Cupid and Psyche, and a procession of bacchanals. Over the chimney-piece is a full-length of J. BURTON, Esq. by Quadel, a German, esteemed a correct likeness.

The other divisions of the room are decorated with elegant stucco-work, and rich gilding; and ornamented with busts of Palladio, Vitruvius, Inigo Jones, &c. The view between the Banqueting-House and the Ruin is extremely beautiful; and many fine prospects may be obtained from different points in the grounds. The Mansion is an irregular structure, erected by Mr. Russell, in which convenience has been more studied than elegance.

SEDFIELD,

AN ancient town, invested with the privilege of a market, by a grant from Bishop Kellawe in the year 1312, is situated on one of the most pleasant and healthful spots in the county; and so famed for its salubrity, and the longevity and hardiness of its inhabitants, that the late celebrated Dr. Askew denominated it the Montpelier of the North. Its site is elevated, on a gravelly soil, and open to every aspect: the surrounding country is in a high state of cultivation, and very productive. The prospects are extensive and grand; embracing a great variety of interesting objects.

Cutheard, Bishop of Durham, about the year 900, is said to have redeemed the vill of Sedfield, with its members, with the money of the Church, of three persons, named Aculf, Ethelbryth, and Frythlake. By the Bolden Buke, it appears there were twenty villains on the manor, and twenty farmers, and that the whole vill joined to provide a *milk cow*. The bond tenants were under great servility; for, besides the various payments exacted, each bondsman, who held thirty acres, wrought three days every week for the lord, except at Easter and Whitsuntide, and twelve days at Christmas.

The centre of the town forms a large square, in which is a market cross; and on the east side, the *Church*. The length of this structure, observes Mr. Hutchinson, from "the tower to the chancel, is about 72 feet; the length of the transept is nearly equal to that of the nave. The aisles are formed by rows of three pillars, light, and elegantly shaped; each pillar being composed of four perfect cylinders, not placed in a square, but in a lozenge east and west,

so as to present a broad front towards the centre of the nave; the columns are belted in the middle; the bases have few members, and those of the Saxon order; but the capitals are variously ornamented, with fillets of palm branches, vine leaves, wreaths of flowers mingled with birds and other figures; in many parts delicately pierced. The arches are pointed, and ornamented with mouldings; the outward one, zigzag; they spring from pilasters on the side walls, and rise from grotesque heads on the capitals of the pillars. The chancel is inclosed from the nave by a rich screen of tabernacle-work in oak, with three stalls on each side, divided by beautiful light columns, and canopied. The chancel is nearly thirty-six feet in length, and neatly wainscotted with oak. The transepts appear to have been added to the original building at different times;" probably on the foundation of two chantries, established here long prior to the Dissolution. The organ was given by the Rev. Theophilus Pickering, who was rector between the years 1705 and 1711. In the east window of the south aisle are the words, *Joh. de Henle rector Eccles. fecit hanc fenestram*: Henley was rector in the year 1361. Various ancient inscriptions are on brasses, in different parts of the Church. Before the altar-rails, on a slab in the pavement, is represented a crosier supported on the back of a lamb, a chalice in the middle of the staff, and the cross at top pointed in the form of the fleur de lis: near the side is inscribed, in Saxon characters,

+ SIR: ANDREV: DE: STAVELAI: METIR:
DE: GRETHAM: GIT: ICI: PVR: DEV: PRIEZ:
PVR: L'AN.

In the north aisle is a curious monument, on a slab inlaid, representing two skeletons in shrouds, apparently male and female; the latter having a winding-sheet folded over the middle: above is the place for a label, which has long been removed, and the inscription is unknown. The ancient Rectory-House,* a castellated edi-

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fice,

* The superstitious and vulgar inhabitants of Sedgfield, were, previously to the burning down of the old Rectory, alarmed by an apparition, denominated the

fice, was burnt down in 1792: the present building was erected by the Rev. George Barrington, in a plain neat style. Many small donations have been made to this parish for charitable purposes. On the east side of the market square is an Hospital, or Alms-house, for ten poor men and women, founded in pursuance of a bequest by Mr. Thomas Cooper, a Surgeon, who died in 1703. Adjoining the hospital is a Free Grammar-school, for the education of six poor children. The population of Sedgefield township, as ascertained by the late act, was 1184; the number of houses 307. The appearance of the latter has been much improved of late years; many of them, which were previously thatched, having been tiled, and rough-cast. A small Linen Manufactory has been established here; and nearly 100 hands are constantly employed in shoe-making. Some additional employment is furnished by a mill, erected on a small stream near the town, for forging spades, axes, &c.

A very singular and destructive *Ice-storm* occurred at Sedgefield, and its neighbourhood, on the 17th of July, 1792. It happened between the hours of eleven and one in the day, and was preceded by an almost total darkness, and a noise resembling reverberated thunder. The streets of the town were filled to the depth of two feet, with pieces of rugged ice, varying in size, from that of a marble to the bigness of a man's head. All the windows which had a southern aspect, were entirely broken; and many houses presented a dreadful picture of its violence and devastation. It began near Preston, and continued to rage in a south-east direction to beyond Kelyoe. All the corn exposed to its fury was destroyed;

the *Pickled Parson*, which for many years was presumed to infest the neighbourhood of the Rector's Hall, "making night hideous." The supposed origin of the tale is attributed to the cunning of a rector's wife, whose husband having died about a week before the tythes (which are generally let off to farmers, and the rents paid on the 20th of December) became due, she concealed his death, by salting his body in a private room. Her scheme succeeded; she received the emoluments of the living, and the next day made the decease of the Rector public. Since the fire the apparition has not been seen!

destroyed; the trees were stripped of their leaves, numerous birds were killed; and the cattle broke from their pastures, and with visible expressions of terror, fled to the habitations of man for security. The cause of this uncommon kind of tempest does not appear to have ever been adequately investigated.

STOCKTON UPON TEES.

THAT Stockton is a place of considerable antiquity, may be safely inferred from its giving name to one of the four wards into which the county is divided; but its early history is very obscure; and whether it derived its origin from the vicinage of the castle, or was previously in existence, is not now easy to determine. The origin of the castle is more obvious.

During the turbulent ages, when national jealousies, and feudal animosities, created intestine warfare, the Bishops of Durham, having been invested with palatine dignity, considered themselves as guardians of the lives and properties, as well as the religion and morals, of the province committed to their care; and with this view, persons able from influence and authority, were appointed to the Bishopric of Durham, that they might act as shepherds to their flock in both a religious and a civil capacity. In the latter character, they had to prevent the inroads of the Scots, who made it a part of their constant policy to distress and levy contributions on their southern neighbours: hence arose the various fortresses betwixt the Tyne and the Tees, and among them STOCKTON CASTLE, which stood to the south of the town, on the northern bank of the latter river, and commanded an extensive prospect. In after ages, it became the occasional residence of many of the prelates, and was improved and strengthened, as circumstances required. During the Civil Wars, in the reign of Charles the First, it was garrisoned for the King, and particularly excepted in the treaty of Rippon, when all the rest of the county, but Eggscliffe, was given up to the Scots. Previously, however, to the year 1645, it fell into their hands, and was afterwards surrendered to the Parliament, which ordered it to be "slighted and dismantled;"

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tléd;” and so effectually was this executed, that not a stone remains as evidence of its former splendor. The only relic is a barn, (now indeed converted into cow-houses,) which appears to have stood within the area. On three sides, the castle was defended by a moat, the channel of which is yet visible; the fourth was protected by the river: the demolition took place in the year 1652.* The site is still a part of the possessions belonging to the Bishops of Durham.

The manor of Stockton was most probably a parcel of the See of Durham previous to the Conquest. When it was incorporated as a borough, is unknown; but supposed to be in the time of Bishop Pudsey. Mention of a Mayor and Bailiff occurs in the year 1344; yet that it was incorporated previous to this, is evident from the talliage levied “of the borough of Stoketon,” in the year 1283.†

In the Bolden Buke, Stockton is represented as containing “eleven villains and a *half*; each of which holds two oxgangs; they pay and work as the villains of Bolden, *cornage*‡ only excepted. In the same town, six farmers hold eleven oxgangs: they pay and work as the farmers at Norton. Adam, the son of Walter, holds one caracute and one oxgang for one marc of silver. Robert de Cambous holds four oxgangs for half a marc, and one oxgang by the accommodation of the Bishop, &c. The same

Robert

* From an Engraving published in the Rev. J. Brewster’s History of Stockton, and copied from a drawing supposed to have been made about the year 1647, purporting to represent the castle, this fortress appears to have been a quadrangular, uniform building, with round towers at the angles, and square towers in the middle of the sides. All the upper part is embattled, and provided with narrow windows, apparently for the discharge of arrows. An old song relative to this castle, has the following lines.

Old Noll in his day, out of pious concern,
This Castle demolish’d, *sold all, but the barn.*

† Madox’s Hist. of the Exchequer, p. 436.

‡ *Cornage* was the ancient service of blowing the horn on any invasion of the Scots: the tenure was very customary in the counties bordering on the Roman wall.

Robert has the old toft of the hall near his own house, and pays sixteen-pence for it. Elwin and Robert, cottagers, pay for two tofts, twelve-pence. Godewin, cottager, sixpence. Symon, the blacksmith, for one toft, four-pence. The Pinder holds six acres, and has of Stoketon, of Herteburn, and Preston, thraves as others, and four-score hens, and five hundred eggs. The ferry of the river pays twenty-pence. The whole town pays one fat cow."

In 1325, Stockton is mentioned among the places destroyed that year by the Scots: it, however, soon recovered importance, as appears from an instrument, addressed by the Mayor and Bailiffs of Newcastle, to "their dearly beloved friends in Christ, the Mayor, Bailiffs, and other honest men of the town of Stockton." The privilege of a market was granted by Bishop Beck in 1310; but it afterwards sunk into obscurity, as appears from the petition of the Mayor and his Brethren, in 1602, to Bishop Matthew, praying for a renewal of the market, which had been discontinued many years. About this period some little attention seems to have been given to promote the trade of the town; and in 1620, a decree of the *Bishop's Court of Chancery*, determined in *his* favor, the right of receiving duties from ships coming into the port for anchorage and plankage. In the ensuing Civil Wars, the growing prosperity of Stockton received a great check: its languishing state may be easily conceived, from the report made to Parliament of the possessions of the See. "The Bpp. has the royalties of the river of Tease, as whales, sturgeon, porposes, or the like, taken on that side of the river next the county of Durham, within the manor of Stockton, and all wrecks of the sea, but know not what they are worth:—not 5*l.* per annum. That the works, customs, and service of the copyholders are little worth; and we know of no cottagers within this man^r. That the living at Stockton is a poor pencon, and not worth above per ann. 30*l.* or 35*l.* or thereabouts." In 1666, the town only contained 136 families, and none of the dwellings were of brick. On the return of the nation to tranquillity, Stockton again began to flourish, and in twenty-six years, the population was increased to 214 families. In 1725 it contained 430 families, "besides 100 more that were paupers."

Since that time its population has more than doubled; the number of inhabitants, as returned under the late act, was 4009; of houses 533.

Stockton consists of two parts; one, called *the Borough*, in which the land is all freehold; the other, denominated *the Town*, where it is copy or leasehold, held under the vicar and vestry-men, and not within the Borough jurisdiction: for this reason there are two constabularies, with peculiar officers, though both form one parish. The civil government is vested in a Mayor, Aldermen, and Recorder, (who is always steward of the Bishop's court-leet and baron,) besides inferior officers. The Mayor is elected by a majority of the Burgesses; yet it is not necessary, as in most corporations, that he should have first been an Alderman; but when chosen into the Mayoralty, he is afterwards styled an Alderman, and so continues as long as he remains in possession of his Borough-right.

The situation of this town on the northern banks of the Tees, at a convenient distance from the sea, renders it extremely favorable for maritime trade, though it has not yet derived all the advantages which might have been expected from that circumstance. Its commerce began to revive soon after the Restoration, and having considerably increased, the principal officers of the customs were removed hither from Hartlepool on the sixteenth of October, 1680; and lawful or free quays were set up under a commissioner from the Exchequer in 1683. Below Stockton, the river flows in a very circuitous course; and as it approaches the German Ocean, expands into a large bay, upwards of three miles wide, within which many vessels, that are not concerned in the trade of the river, seek shelter in tempestuous weather. The vessels registered as belonging to this port in 1795, were 47; carrying 5733 tons.

Stockton is probably the most handsome town in the north of England, as well for the breadth of its principal street, as for the general neatness of its buildings. This street is about half a mile in length, and upwards of sixty yards broad at the market-place, which is in the centre, and continues nearly as broad to either extremity

extremity of the town: this renders the entrance, whether from the north or south, particularly impressive. Several smaller streets branch off in different directions; and at the north-east side is a spacious square, which contains some good buildings, and has been lately inclosed, and planted, by a subscription raised among the principal inhabitants. The *Town-Hall* stands near the middle of the principal street: it is a large square building, partly occupied as a tavern, and containing a handsome suite of assembly rooms, and various other apartments, court-room, &c. The arms of the town are sculptured over the south entrance. The order of court for its erection is dated March the ninth 1735. At a small distance is a handsome *Column*, thirty-three feet high, of the Doric order, where the market is held, and which stands on the spot formerly occupied by an open cross. Below this are the *Shambles*, which, though neat in themselves, detract considerably from the noble appearance of the street.

Stockton was originally a chapelry to Norton, a pleasant village about two miles to the north, but was constituted a distinct parish in the year 1711. During the episcopacy of Bishop Poore, who died in 1234, a chapel of ease was erected here, which becoming ruinous, and too small for the increased number of inhabitants, was taken down; and a new Church erected, the foundation of which was laid June the fifth, 1710; and the building opened for divine service on the twenty-first of August, 1712.

The *Church* is a handsome brick fabric, the doors and windows cased with stone, the roof covered with Westmoreland slate: its length, including the tower and chancel, is 150 feet: the tower stands at the west end, and is eighty feet high. It contains a fine organ, erected in the year 1759; and the whole interior view is neat and uniform. In the vestry is a collection of old divinity books, which has lately been considered as the foundation of a parochial divinity Library, and various books on religion and morality are occasionally added to the ancient stock, by annual subscription among the most respectable parishioners. The Presbyterians, Quakers, Methodists, and Roman Catholics, have each a meeting-house in this town; which also contains a Grammar-school,

school, Charity-school, Sunday-school, and an Alms-house or Hospital for poor people.

The principal manufactures of Stockton are sail cloths and ropes, for government and the merchant service, and which are carried on to a considerable extent. Here is also a manufactory of damasks, diapers, huckabacks, towelling, checked linens, &c. articles which have lately been wrought in great perfection. Two docks for ship-building are likewise situated on the banks of the Tees; and if a proper spirit of enterprize was excited by the proprietors, this business might become of incalculable advantage, as the ships built here are more reasonable, and far better constructed, than at many other sea-ports: a vessel of 800 tons burthen has lately been built here for the East India Company.

An elegant Bridge of five arches was erected over the Tees, below the town, between the years 1764 and 1771, at the expence of 8000*l*. This sum was raised by loan, and the subscribers entitled to an increasing interest, but not to exceed 5 per cent. till the debt was defrayed. The tolls have progressively augmented, and now let for 800*l*. annually. This is appropriated to discharge the principal and interest of the expence incurred, on the liquidation of which, the bridge will be thrown open, and the charges of repair defrayed by the county of Durham, and the North Riding of Yorkshire, respectively.

Many improvements have been made here within the last forty years, which may, with great propriety, be ascribed to the more cultivated manners of the principal inhabitants. "Opulence and industry have given a spur to all their attainments, and they are behind no other town in the elegant pleasures of polished life: at the same time, few are the instances that have occurred, in which liberality and profusion have lost sight of justice and propriety."

The shock of an earthquake was felt at Stockton on the ninth of December, 1780, at a quarter before five in the afternoon: * and on August the second, 1783, a severe storm of thunder and lightning occurred, accompanied by a shower of irregular pieces
of

* Brewster's History of Stockton. p. 155.

of ice, some of them measuring from three to five inches in circumference. The tempest came from the west; and most of the windows that fronted it were broken. Variety of silver coins were found here in pulling down an old house in the year 1792: many of them were in excellent preservation, and in a regular series from Edward the Sixth to James the Second. They were claimed as *treasure trove*; and 846, weighing 9lb. 4oz. delivered to the Bishop of Durham as Lord of the manor.

Stockton has been the birth-place of the following distinguished persons. JOSEPH REED, author of the Register Office, and other dramatic pieces, was born in the year 1722. His profession was that of a rope-maker, which he practised in Stockton; but removing to London, he settled in Sun-Tavern Fields, Shadwell. Inconsistent as it may appear, Mr. Reed successfully courted the Muses; and at the time that he was winding cordage, he contrived dramas with considerable talent and ingenuity. "*Madrigal* and *Trulletta*, a mock tragedy, acted under the direction of Mr. Cibber, in Covent Garden; with notes by the author, Dr. Humbug, critic and censor-general," appeared in 1758, and was his first production. "It is impossible," says a reviewer of this piece, "to peruse his comic scenes, without sharing in the diversion which this facetious performance must have afforded its merry author in the writing." The *Register Office*, Mr. Reed's next production, was brought out in 1761, and still keeps a respectable rank among dramatic performances, and fixed the author's reputation as a critic. Besides these, he wrote the tragedy of *Dido*; and a comic opera called "*Tom Jones*," from the novel of the same name: but a different cast is given to several of the characters. He died on the fifteenth of August, 1787, in the sixty-fifth year of his age.

BRASS CROSBY, Esq. born in 1726, rose from a very inferior station in life at this town, to the highest magisterial honors in the city of London. He was placed with an attorney at Sunderland; and removing to the Metropolis, followed that profession in the Little Minories, and afterwards in Seething-Lane. Marrying the rich widow of a taylor and salesman, who had united dealing
in

in sailors' tickets with his other branches of trade, Mr. Crosby pursued the same line, and accumulated an immense income. On her death, he married the widow of Mr. Cooke, who had acquired a handsome competency as collar-maker to the Office of Ordnance. He now progressively was elected Common Councilman for Tower Ward, City Remembrancer, Sheriff, Alderman, and Lord Mayor of London; and Member of Parliament for Honiton, in Devonshire. The circumstances of his commitment to the Tower, whilst Lord Mayor, by the House of Commons, with the causes, and the popularity he thence obtained, are too prolix to be here inserted. At the conclusion of his mayoralty, he received the thanks of the Corporation, was presented with a cup of 100*l.* value; and the obelisk in St. George's Fields was inscribed to his memory. His third wife, the widow of the Rev. Mr. Tattersall, survived him. This lady added to his vast property the manor of Chellesfield Court, Kent, and a jointure of 1000*l.* per annum. He died at his house in Chatham Square, February 14th, 1793, at the age of 68 years, and was buried in great funeral pomp in Chellesfield Church.

CHRISTOPHER ALLISON became famed for the gallant action in which he was engaged in the Adventure armed ship, commanded by him for the owners, and by Captain Bray for the King, when the Machault privateer was taken in Dungeness-road. The action was esteemed so particularly glorious, that the Lords of the Admiralty rewarded Captain Bray with the command of an eighty gun ship; whilst Mr. Allison, to whose genius the whole has been ascribed, gained no reward. This has been imputed to Captain Bray's conduct, in unfairly assuming all the merit to himself, in his official letter to the Lords of the Admiralty. A more correct statement was given by Allison in a letter* to Mr. Reed, (mentioned

* This letter, written in the true seaman-like manner, was as follows :

" Spithead, January 29th, 1758.

" MR. REED,

" Your favor of the 13th. I received on the 20th. wherein I find you want to know the particulars of our action. The following is the

ed above,) and might have been authenticated by the whole crew, if the enquiry had been thought necessary. Mr. Allison was living in the year 1796.

JOSEPH RITSON, Esq. a man of uncommon talents, but singular character, was born on the second of October, 1752. He was bred to the law, and became distinguished for his professional attainments, though not more so than for his proficiency in other branches of literary enquiry; and "he was, perhaps, the most successful of those persons by whom the investigation of old English literature and antiquities was cultivated in the latter part of the eighteenth century." His memory was exceedingly retentive, and his researches comprehensive; but his pages are disfigured by an affected phraseology. His moral conduct was unexceptionable; as his ingenuousness would never suffer him to act in opposition to the decisions of his understanding. On

truth, to the best of my knowledge; which is, I believe, better than any in the ship can give. On the first of January, Dungeness-light east by north from us four miles, about twelve at noon, saw a snow stand in for Dungeness, which some took for one of our cruisers. Dinner being ready, Captain Bray gave orders for all the hammocks up, and clearing the ship, which was done in the time we were at dinner. Monsieurs, smelling our beef, roast pork, and plumb-pudding, came down in order to deprive us of it; we dined on our beef and pork before they came: the pudding we fought for.

"Being informed by the officer upon deck, that she was bearing down with an English jack flying, we went up, and soon saw what she was. Our Captain's order was to heave in the cable: I told him we had not time; it would be better to bear away to the splice, and cut; in the mean time loosed our top-sails and fore-sail, cut, and bore away large: had not time to get our top-sails hoisted; being then within gun-shot, we fired. He immediately down English and up French colours, but did not fire at us. I told Captain Bray his intent was to rake us, and desired to port our helm; which he gave orders for. Finding our ship to lay in the same position, I ran to the helm, and found the helm a-starboard; put it a-port as fast as I could, ship wearing very fast, and he sheering towards us with full sail, could not prevent boarding us. Seeing in what position she was coming, I told Captain Bray she was our own; only make her fast, she would not be able to get a gun to bear on us. From that I ran to cut the pikes down, expecting they had their men ready to board us, which they had; but receiving such a continual fire, they could not stand it.

I called

On this principle he abstained from the use of animal food for the last twenty years of his life; a potatoe, a biscuit, or an egg, with lemonade or tea, generally constituting his whole support during the day. This peculiar abstinence contributed to destroy a constitution naturally weak, and at the age of fifty he exhibited every mark of premature decay. He died delirious in October, 1803. His works are numerous and valuable. His collections of English and Scotch Songs, and of Metrical Romances, are, perhaps, equal to any in print. His last publication was a treatise on his favorite topic, abstinence from animal food.

A SALMON FISHERY to some extent is carried on in the Tees near Stockton; and near the mouth of the river is a Fishery for *Cockles*, which are chiefly gathered by females from a ridge of sand left dry at the ebb tide in the middle of the stream. On Seaton and Greatham marshes, near the mouth of the Tees, were
 anciently

I called to the pilot several times, with anger, who had hold of the bob-stay with his hand, to make her fast. I laid down my musquet, ran forward for a tow-line, sent some of the main-deck idlers to hand the end up, ran aft with the end, reeved it through his bob-stay, brought it to the capston, and took a round turn with the other part. In the mean time Captain Bray, and the pilot, had got the mizen-top-sail sheet passed, and made it fast to a cleet on the mizen-mast, which came off. That being done, I returned to the musquet, on which the action chiefly depended. About this time they made an attempt to rally their men, and to man their fore-castle; and dropt their fore-sail, that we might not see them. One of the four-pounders in the round-house, cleared a way for us, by firing part of their fore-sail; renewing our musquetry, with more vigour, from the quarter-deck and round-house, they fled, to a man, for shelter: and I perceived their colours to be struck, which I called out accordingly, and fired my musquet in the air: four of us jumped upon their fore-castle barricading for boarding them, amongst whom was our pilot; but, unexpected, they gave us a volley of small arms; on which we returned without any damage. The firing, on both sides, continued about ten minutes longer, with three or four great guns, and so the action ended.

“My mate, Mr. Headlam, who signalized himself equal to any, received a shot in his wrist, and one of our marines a slight wound by a splinter: these two were wounded after their colours were struck. One of our marines was killed the first of the action.

“Yours,

“CHRIST. ALLISON.”

anciently very considerable *Salt-works*. "Traces of these works are still to be seen, and have the appearance of breast-works and fortifications. By an inquisition, *post mortem*, *an*. 36 Hatfield, (1380,) it appears that Rob. son of Marm. de Lumley, Knight, died seized of 25s. rent, and one quart of salt issuing out of three messuages and one salt-work, in the tenure of John de Carrowe, in Seaton: and by another inquisition of the same kind, *an*. 15 Langley, (1421,) that Amisia, the widow of Thomas de Elmedon, died seized of a quarter part of the manor of Seaton, consisting, among other things, of a salt-work, value 2s. another salt-work, and a fourth part of a salt-work. The farms in the parish of Greatham, bordering upon the marshes, held by leases under the master and brethren of Greatham Hospital, are covenanted to pay a stipulated number of bushels of salt, as an acknowledgment to the hospital: these are now commuted for money."*

WINYARD, the seat of Sir Harry Vane Tempest, Bart. was, in the reign of Edward the First, the property of Sir Hugh Capel, Knt. from whom it passed through various families to Thomas Budd, Esq. who became possessed, by purchase, early in the last century: by him it was sold to John Tempest, Esq. maternal grandfather of the present owner. The mansion has been rebuilt on the old foundation, and now forms an elegant residence. The walks and pleasure-grounds are extremely pleasant, and, by the judicious intermixture of wood and water, render the scenery, from some points of view, uncommonly attractive.

GREATHAM, or GRETHAM, is a pleasant village, standing upon an eminence at the south-east corner of the county, near the mouth of the river Tees; being situated about one mile north of that river, and two miles west of the sea. The Parish Church, which was very ruinous and decayed, and containing no memorials of its antiquity worthy of remembrance, was taken down, and rebuilt on a plain but neat plan, and a square embattled tower erected at the west end, in the year 1792. The only parts of the old church which were preserved, were two rows of pillars, that divided the church into a nave and two aisles.

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* Brewster's History of Stockton, p. 62.

In the chancel is a mural monument of black and white marble, with the following inscription: "In memory of RALPH BRADLEY, Esq. an eminent Counsellor at Law, born in this parish, who bequeathed a large fortune, acquired in a great measure by his abilities and integrity, *to the purchasing of books calculated to promote the interests of virtue and religion, and the happiness of mankind.*"* He died December 28, 1788, in the seventy-second year of his age." In consequence of the indefinite manner of the bequest, and the execution of it being left to the Court of Chancery, it was set aside by a decree of that court, August the second, 1791, in favor of the next of kin. The property intended to have been thus applied, amounted to above 40,000l.

The number of inhabitants in Greatham township, according to the return under the population act, 1801, is 484; of which 226 are males, and 258 females.

GREATHAM HOSPITAL adjoins the village of Greatham, a little to the west, and was founded by Robert de Stichill, Bishop of Durham, in the year 1272; the lands he appropriated to this purpose being a part of the forfeitures of the Montford family, in the reign of Henry the Third. Some difference of opinion has arisen among antiquaries on the subject of this foundation. Grose mistakes the date of the foundation, as well as the name of the founder. Dugdale does the same. Hutchinson says, "the Earl of Leicester, or Peter de Montfort, his son, was possessed of the manor of Greatham."† Peter de Montfort was undoubtedly the possessor, but he was not Simon's son, but his cousin. As this has not been before investigated, we offer the following observations.

A short time before the celebrated battle of Lewes, the King laid siege to Northampton, where fifteen Barons and sixty Knights were made prisoners. Among the persons of note enumerated on this occasion by Rishanger, the continuator of Matthew Paris, is Peter de Montfort. Matthew of Westminster calls him Peter de Montfort, *Jun.* and Tindal's note on Rapin (from Wikes, p. 60,

* The words of his Will. † History of Durham, Vol. I. p. 217.

60, and Heminford, p. 582) styles him Peter de Montfort, the Earl's *cousin*. Had he been Simon's son, the addition *junior* could not have been used. At the battle of Evesham, the celebrated Simon, Earl of Leicester, lost his life; and at the same time Henry his son, Peter de Montfort, and many others who fought on the same side, were slain. Edward, the King's son, gave orders to the Monks of Evesham, that the bodies of the dead should be decently interred; but he confined his own attentions to that of Henry, and assisted personally at his exequies; (Rishanger.) The remains of Simon were shamefully mutilated; his head was sent by Roger de Mortimer, as a signal of victory, to his wife; his body was interred with that of his son in the Abbey of Evesham. No particular distinction was paid to the remains of Peter. Amongst the names of the illustrious persons taken prisoners or wounded in this battle, we find "Guy de Montfort, son of the Earl, Peter de Montfort, Jun. &c." (Matthew of Westminster.) Thus both father and son were engaged in the same cause; one lost his life, the other his liberty and *lands*; and, without all doubt, the latter is the person whose name occurs in the original deed of the foundation of Greatham Hospital.

The Manor of Greatham thus forfeited, being part of the property, as the deed recites, of "Peter de Montfort, *the King's enemy*," Henry gave to his faithful and well-beloved Thomas de Clare. But the King discovering that the privileges of the palatinate of Durham prevented the confirmation of this grant, he soon afterwards executed a deed of revocation, in which he allows, in their full extent, all the *jura regalia* of the Bishops of Durham. It might have been imagined, that the Bishop, upon this, would have taken possession of the forfeited lands immediately. Perhaps he did so. But the next deed we meet with, is a grant of Pêter de Montfort to Robert de Stichill, of the lands in question. From the names of the witnesses to the deed, it appears to have been executed within the palatinate; and cheerfully resigned by Peter to the Bishop, (perhaps he made a virtue of a necessity,) in conformity with his intention to found an Hospital. That this

was the case, is rendered still more apparent, by his calling it in the deed, a *confirmation*, as well as a gift and a grant.*

Robert de Stichill, knowing that no comforts equalled those of religion *in rocking the cradle of declining age*, united with his charitable foundation a religious establishment, and enjoined that the members of his Hospital should live together according to the habits of the times in the manner of Monks, (*more monachorum*;) that they should live in one house, and mess at one table; and that they should consist of one Master, five Priests, and forty poor persons. This Hospital was dedicated to God, St. Mary, and St. Cuthbert. The foundation and grant of Bishop Stichill were confirmed by the Edwards Third and Fourth: the latter granted the master and brethren a weekly market and two annual fairs.

In the time of James the First, this Hospital was re-founded, and a new charter granted, dated 20th July, 1610. It is there called *the Hospital of God in Gretham*: the five priests of course were not re-established, and the number of brethren was reduced to thirteen. The establishment at present consists of one Master, (who is a layman,) one Chaplain, six Brethren, maintained wholly in the Hospital, six out Pensioners, and one Bailiff of the Manor. Besides the maintenance and pensions of the brethren, a certain quantity

* Wharton, from Rob. de Graystones, in the *Anglia Sacra*, p. 742, sets forth, "nam ipsam villam episcopus emerat a quodam Bertramo cognomine." In the list of Knights from Durham at the battle of Lewes, 1264, we find Sir Robert (or Roger) Bertram de Gretham. See Hutchinson, Vol. I. 218. In answer to this, it may be said, the Bishop could not purchase the lands of Bertram, because they were not then in his possession. The grant itself is a proof of this. When Northampton was taken by the King's troops, Roger Bertram was made a prisoner at the same time with Peter de Montfort. As he was in arms against the King, he might probably be liberated by the successful rebellion of the Earl of Leicester; and if a conjecture may be made in a case of uncertainty, he might sell his lands to his fellow prisoner Peter; or, which is more likely, he might die (and Peter might purchase them) in the intermediate space between the battles of Lewes and Evesham. This conjecture is founded on the circumstance, that though his name is mentioned at the former period, it is altogether omitted at the latter, notwithstanding the names of the principal persons on both sides are recorded in history.

quantity of dough, ready prepared for the oven, is distributed monthly to poor persons of the village.

The original buildings of the Hospital are now no more. They formed a quadrangle, or at least three sides of one, a little to the north and west of the parish Church. An excavation in the ground, surrounded by a line of trees, marks the situation of the ancient dormitory, and other necessary buildings. The habitation of the brethren has been taken down during the last year, 1803, and another, on an elegant plan, drawn by Jeffrey Wyat, is erecting at the sole expence of the Earl of Bridgewater, the present Master. The building lately removed was in a very decayed state, and consisted of two rows of arches, supported by octagonal pillars, built up both on the north and south sides, with a small porch in front, as if it had formed the middle aisle of a Church.*

The Lodge, or Mansion-House of the Master, is pleasantly situated in a garden surrounded by trees, and commanding a fine view of the river Tees, and the Cleveland hills. Over the door is the following inscription, under the arms of Mr. Parkhurst, one of the former masters.

“Ædificium hoc extrui curavit
DORMERUS PARKHURST Arm.
Hujus Hospitalis Magister
Et comitatus Palatini Dunelmensis
Cancellarius Temporalis.
Anno Salutis, 1725.”

Within the garden, on a rising ground to the left, is the Chapel of the Hospital, rebuilt also by the present Master in the year 1788. It occupies the chancel part of the old chapel; and contains the two following inscriptions, preserved in the demolition of the ancient building.

Orate pro animabus Nicholai Hulme, Johannis Kelyng, et Willelmi Estfield, clericorum dominorum quondam hujus hospitalis magistrorum, ac parentum fundatorum suorum benefactorum ac pro omnium fidelium defunctorum, quorum animabus propitiatur Deus, Amen.

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This

* This alteration appears to have taken place when the hospital was re-founded by James the First.

This is in the black letter. The following, in the Saxon character, is inscribed on the brass edging of a tomb-stone.

† Hic jacet Magister Wilelmus de Middiltoun sacre pagine
doctor quondam custos domus istius, orate pro eo.—*

The brethren of this Hopital are celebrated for their longevity. The ages of the six brethren last year were as follows: 96, 82, 82, 80, 80, 63. Total number of years 483. The Rev. James Horseman, Chaplain of the Hospital, and Vicar of the parish, died in the year 1790, aged 88, having filled those offices during 60 years.

Dormer Parkhurst, L. L. B. and his father, John Parkhurst, L. L. B. having enjoyed the mastership of Greatham Hospital from the year 1676 to 1764, (88 years,) the latter built, at his own expence, and endowed an Hospital in the same village for six poor females, in the year 1761, who shall be widows, or unmarried, and upwards of fifty years of age, settled in, or belonging to, the town of Greatham, if fit objects of charity. If no woman in Greatham be found of this description, then to be elected from some town or place in the neighbourhood. Six neat apartments of brick, with a small garden annexed to each, are appropriated to this purpose. The endowment consists of lands situated in the parish of Stockton, the rents of which are thus applied, viz. 4l. 16s. 0d. a-piece by twelve monthly payments; 4s. at Christmas; 2s. at Easter; and 2s. at Whitsuntide; on the first day of October, a gown ready made, to be all of the same color, and decent; a reasonable and sufficient quantity of coals and fuel; and when any are visited with sickness, or incapable of taking care of themselves, a fit person of their own sex is to be employed and paid for attending them. The women to keep their apartments clean and neat, and be quiet and peaceable in their behaviour, and constantly attend divine service in the church and chapel. The residue of the funds of this Hospital, if any, to place out poor boys belonging to the town of Greatham, apprentices to such

* William de Middilton was Master from 1312 to 1351.

such trades as the trustees shall think proper. The appointment of the poor women, and the regulation, &c. of the Hospital, is in the Master of the Hospital of Greatham for the time being, who has power to vary the rules as occasion shall require.

SEATON, or SEATON CAREW, so called from a family of that name who were owners in the reign of Richard the First, is a pleasant bathing village, situated on the borders of the sea, and chiefly consisting of cottages, forming three sides of a quadrangle. The accommodations are reasonable; and a new and respectable inn has lately been built for the reception of company: a row of convenient lodging-houses communicates with the inn, both on the ground and second floors. The prospects to the north and south are very beautiful.

HARTLEPOOL,

ANCIENTLY called *Heortn*, *Heorthn*, and *Heortnesse*, is said, in the Chronicle of Lindisfarne, to have been built “by Ecgreg, Bishop of the Holy Isle, and given to the See for ever, somewhat before Eardulf fled the Isle.” Before this, about the year 640, however, a monastery had been founded “at or near this place, by a religious woman, named Hieu, or, as some copies have it, St. Bega, whereof St. Hilda was some time Abbess.*” No further traces of this establishment can now be discovered; but it is supposed to have been destroyed in the year 800, when Tynemouth and Hartness were burnt by the Danes.

Hartlepool is situated on a promontory, nearly encompassed by the German Ocean, which, on the south side of the town, forms a capacious bay, extremely favorable for the reception of vessels, and landing of troops from the Continent. These circumstances rendered it a place of great importance to the Normans, and the family of *Brus* were thence induced to secure it by fortifications. This family obtained possession of Hart and *Hartness*, with many other manors, by the marriage of Robert de Brus, or Bruce, an attendant on William the Conqueror, with Agnes, daughter of Fulke de Paganell. William de Bruce, grandson of Robert, ob-

* Tanner's Notitia.

tained the grant of a market; and King John, by a charter, dated the eighth of February, in the second year of his reign, "granted and confirmed to his subjects of Hartlepool, that they should be free burgesses,* and hold the same liberties and privileges as the burgesses of Newcastle." Thus Hartlepool gradually advanced to importance. The commodious situation of the isthmus, which forms a crescent, in which, from its extended point, ships could lie moored in safety from the storms at north-east, as well as from the heavy seas which break upon the coast by the impetuous tides, and the influx or current setting up the mouth of the river Tees, induced Robert de Bruce, son of the last mentioned Robert, and grandson of William, to build "the haven and wall about the towne of Hertlepole, with ten towers on eache syde of the haven, and a chayne to be drawne between them near the haven, which haven would hold a C sayle."

Bishop Pudsey, ambitious of honors both civil and ecclesiastical, when he purchased the earldom and wapentake of Sadberge, of Richard the First, in the year 1189, included Hartlepool in the purchase, which being confirmed to him by King John, this place was held of the prelates of Durham, as chief lords of the See. On the claim of Robert Bruce, in 1305, to the Crown of Scotland, a forfeiture of his possessions took place, and Edward the First granted his estates to Robert de Clifford. Though this was an infringement of the privileges granted to the Bishops, they do not appear to have contested it; and in the first year of Edward the Second, De Clifford joined with Anthony de Bec, to support the honor and dignity of the King with their lives and fortunes. In this family Hartlepool continued till the thirteenth of Richard the Second, when Roger de Clifford died, seized of the manors of Hart, Hartelpole, &c. It seems, however, from various evidences, that

* Brady, in his Treatise on Boroughs, informs us, "that the liberty here granted, consisted in a freedom to buy and sell without disturbance, from paying toll, pontage, passage-money, lastage, stallage, &c. in the markets and fairs in these burghs, and in coming to and going from them; and on these accounts the burghs were denominated free burghs." Page 33, Appendix 24, Edit. 1777, 8vo.

that the Cliffords held the manor under the prelates of Durham, as lords paramount.

When the Scots, in the year 1335, ravaged all the country on the banks of the Tees, the terrified inhabitants of Hartlepool flew to their ships with such effects as they could readily remove, and put to sea for safety. How the town could be so easily surrendered is surprising, except by treachery, the appearance of the fortifications* being so solid, that a long siege could have been sustained: however, the enemy were satisfied by a large contribution, which saved the whole neighbourhood from destruction.

To

* These are described by Mr. Hutchinson as follows: " Few places in the kingdom give so perfect an idea of the fortifications of former times as Hartlepool. A long extended wall, strengthened by demi-bastions at intervals, some rounded, others square; various gates and sally-ports, secured by machicolations, and the portcullis; some of the gates defended by angular, others by square turrets; all the variety appearing which had grown into use in that age. As the wall runs along the edge of the creek, behind the point of land which projects itself into the sea, and from thence turns to cross the isthmus to the opposite cliff, the figure it forms is not regular, giving first a triangle, and then running with a sweep or bend north and eastward. At the *ness end*, or north-east point of the wall to the sea, it finished with an acute angle, rising on the brow of lofty rocks: the foundation has of late years been wasted by the washing of the waves, and that part of the wall is now gone: it was exactly similar to the ness or point of the Roman wall opposite to the Castle of Carlisle. For a considerable space from the sea, the wall is much broken; and at the distance of about twenty paces, are the remains of a square bastion: from thence about forty paces, is a round bastion, projecting from the wall, about two thirds of a circle, in girt nearly thirty feet: in the front of this bastion, at the distance of about five yards, is a high ridge of earth, probably cast up by assailants. From the round bastion, at about forty paces, is a square bastion, about ten feet in front, and projecting about seven feet from the line of the wall: from thence, at about forty-six paces, is a round bastion, somewhat larger than that before described, making a projection of about ten feet, not so prominent as the others. In all the part described, the wall forms a straight line; and the ground gradually inclines, and falls from the edge of the cliffs where the wall begins. At the distance of about thirty paces the wall forms an obtuse angle, guarded with a turret or bastion; from whence is a kind of horn-work, projecting into the field for a considerable distance, of an angular figure, having two terraces, one above another, with the remains of the glacis: the mason-work appears through the broken turf.

To the Cliffords the *Lumleys* succeeded as possessors of Hartlepool; and in the time of Bishop Matthew, "Lord John Lumley set up a pretence that Hartlepool was not within the liberty royal, but was entitled to a special franchise, as being a county or liberty distinct from the palatinate." These disputes were at last settled by arbitration in favor of the See. The Lumleys maintained possession till 1770, when the whole manor, town, &c. were purchased by Sir George Pococke, with whose heirs it still continues.

Hartlepool

turf. From thence is an extensive prospect of the sea and coast towards Sunderland, commanding Hawthorn Hive, or the Beacon Point, Easington, Elwick, Beacon, and a long tract of country. At about thirteen paces from the angle, there is the appearance of a sally-port; but the wall has been repaired and altered in modern times, so that it is not possible to ascertain more concerning it. At the distance of about sixty paces is a round bastion; at about sixty paces further the great land gate, being the chief entrance to the town from Durham, opening upon a road forced over a level marsh, easily broken up or flooded in a siege. This gate seems to have been strengthened with a wet ditch, and probably a draw-bridge. The whole wall, towers, and gateways, are of excellent masonry, built of lime-stone, which is won in the sea banks, of so soft a nature in the bed or quarry, that it may be squared with an adze; but when exposed to the air, becomes remarkably hard and durable; the arch of this gateway is ribbed; and, besides double gates, had its portcullis: the width of the passage is ten feet, and of the whole gateway tower about thirty feet: the projection is not much above a foot from the face of the wall: it appears to have had a strong tower for its superstructure, entered at each side from the parapet of the wall. The approach to the town from this gate was by the side of the haven, which must have made a fine appearance; as the bason, if we may judge from the present slake or morass, consisted of several acres, where a hundred sail might lie moored. From this gateway the wall which secured the haven begins, and runs in a direct line, the water at high tide coming up to the gate. It is somewhat more than eight feet thick, faced on each side with dressed stones, with a parapet guarded by a breast-wall and embrasure, now greatly decayed. There is a water-gate in this wall, formed by a low, pointed arch, about twenty-four feet in space, and ten feet high, for small craft to pass in and out of the haven without removing the boom-chains, afterwards noted: this gateway projects from the wall about eighteen inches, has had flood-gates, and also a watch tower, as we apprehend, from the remains of the superstructure. From thence, at the distance of about seventeen paces, is a square bastion, about eight feet in front; and nearly one hundred paces distant is another square bastion; and from thence,

about

Hartlepool is built on the western side of a hill, and chiefly consists of one principal street, and some smaller ones, that run crosswise. In the summer months it is much frequented for sea-bathing; and additional buildings, and other accommodations, have of late years been erected for the reception and convenience of the visitors. The surrounding prospects are interesting; and the rocks, which skirt the coast north of the town, being for some distance excavated, and rendered cavernous, by the violence of the waves, afford agreeable and romantic retreats at low water. The trade of Hartlepool is not extensive; a circumstance that may possibly be ascribed as much to the neglected state of the harbour,

as

about seventy paces, is a lofty round tower, remaining very perfect, save the parapet and embrasures: opposite to it, at the distance of thirty-six feet, stood another tower, exactly similar in dimensions, as the facia and foundations plainly shew. This was the grand entrance into the haven; and by the space between the towers, one may judge of the size of those vessels which were moored therein, a thirty gun ship, being thirty-two feet wide. This entrance was guarded by large boom-chains stretched from tower to tower, the remains of the loops belonging to such chains being still visible in the walls of the tower. At ten paces distance are the foundations of a round bastion, near which is a modern gate, where it is presumed formerly was a small door-way for the convenience of persons landing from boats: at twenty-four paces distant, the wall forms an angle, and turns towards the sea: this angle is defended by a half-moon. The entrance into the haven had the peculiar security, that vessels coming from the sea must necessarily double the cape or point of the isthmus, and then proceed along the whole range and stretch of the south wall, within reach of the engines and instruments of war, and pass the half-moon which guarded the angle of the wall. At the distance of sixty paces from the angle is a square bastion, and near it a large breach in the wall: from the square bastion, about one hundred and twenty paces, is a round bastion; and next stands the gateway, now called the Water Gate, which only communicates with the land at low water, and leads to the High Street: the arch of this gateway is pointed, about eight feet in width, and defended on each hand by angular turrets, with the fronts projecting; a figure not commonly met with in old fortifications. From this gate the wall advances to and buts upon the rock near its point, where the pier and mole begins. The whole of this south part appears much more modern than the north and west sides." *History of Durham, Vol. III. p. 25, et seq.*—Since the above was written, the fortifications have been repaired, and some additional batteries constructed, so that the bay is now in a very respectable state of defence.

as to its distance from the places where the great staple commodities of this county, coal and lead, are abundant. The *Slake*,* on the west side of the town, might, by a due degree of public-spirited exertion, be made productive of much benefit; as its waters could be applied to cleanse and deepen the extensive bason below the town, and vessels of a large size be admitted to approach the very walls. The fishing business is considerable, and great variety of fine fish are caught, and sent into the inland parts of the country.

The *Church*, or rather Chapel, (this town being included in the parish of Hart,) is an irregular structure, of different ages and styles of architecture: the tower and nave are the most ancient: before the Reformation several chantries existed here. Some very old, but mutilated monuments, remain in the church-yard; reported, but apparently without foundation, to have belonged to the Bruces', one of whom, Robert de Brus, before 1275, established a Monastery for Grey Friars, the ruins of which may yet be traced at some little distance from the Church. The other public buildings are a Town-Hall, a Free-School, and a Custom-House. The civil government is vested in a Mayor, Aldermen, Recorder, and Common-Council. The number of inhabitants in this town-ship, is 993; of houses 230.

Within a few yards of the Water Gate, on the south side of the town, is a *Chalybeate Spring*, covered every tide by the sea: it is impregnated with a small degree of sulphur, which evaporates very quickly, leaving a sediment, with salt of tartar. The water assumes a whitish cast with spirits of hartshorn; with galls it turns to a pink color; but with syrup of violets it subsides into a green. A gallon will yield 120 grains of sediment, two parts of which are nitrous, the rest lime-stone.

The fishermen, who, except during the bathing season, are almost the only persons resident at Hartlepool, are a rude, but athletic and courageous race, very expert in their profession, and ever ready to brave the violence of the storm to rescue their fellow

* *Slake* is a common term in the north for a lake or broad expanse of water.

low creatures in cases of shipwreck, which frequently occur on this coast: to aid their intrepid exertions, a Life-Boat has lately been established here by public subscription.

About five miles north from Hartlepool, is one of the most singular and romantic clusters of rocks in the north of England. The general name is the BLACK HALLS, so called from the various caverns; some of which run many yards beyond the light of day; others are open, and supported by natural pillars. These have been formed by the force and constant action of the waves; which have also separated enormous masses from the coast, washing some entirely away, but leaving others standing like the vast towers of a cathedral: in some places the rock is perforated so as to resemble a fine pointed arch gateway.

CASTLE EDEN, derived traditionally from *Castle in the Dean*,* is the seat of Rowland Burdon, Esq. one of the parliamentary representatives for this county, a most respectable and worthy character, to whose patriotic exertions, not only this neighbourhood, but a very considerable portion of Durham, is indebted for its improvement in trade and agriculture. Castle Eden originally belonged to the See of Durham, from which it was early usurped by the Earls of Northumberland. After the Conquest, it came into the possession of Robert de Brus, who gave it to the Prior and convent of Gisburne, by whose successors it was retained till the period of the Dissolution. The present owner became possessed, by purchase, from —— Bromley, Esq. of the county of Warwick. The Mansion was rebuilt by Mr. Burdon: it is a spacious and handsome castellated edifice, beautifully situated on the top of the woody precipice that forms the southern boundary of the romantic defile, called CASTLE EDEN DEAN, and commanding a fine land and sea prospect. The Dean extends about three miles from its entrance on the sea shore, and taking a waving course, constitutes some of the finest scenery in the

* The Saxon word *Den*, or *Dene*, signifies a valley or woody place, but is very different from *Glen*, which is a defile, or valley between hills. A *Den*, or *Dean*, sinks suddenly from the common level of the country, and cannot be seen till the spectator is close upon the borders.

the county; being deep, woody, and rocky. In many parts of the Dean, the rocks so exactly tally in their strata, and approach so nearly with correspondent angles, as to justify the idea of their having been torn asunder by some great natural convulsion. Various detached masses, that seem to have been rent from the summit, lie in the bottom of the Dean, with trees and brushwood growing upon them. At the head of the dell is a natural cascade, which issues from the crevice of a rock, and falls into a basin called Gunner's Pool; and near the entrance is a sequestered cottage, where a small society of French emigrant priests found a happy asylum during the violence of the troubles which so lately ravaged their ill-fated country. A safe road has been made through the Dean, by which its most beautiful features have been displayed to the admiring visitor. The chief part of the Dean belongs to Mr. Burdon; the other parts are the property of the Rev. Mr. Brandling, of Shotten, a village to the north of Castle Eden, and Mr. Maire, of Hardwicke Hall, a pleasant residence on the same side, near the sea.

On an eminence, separated by a deep and narrow valley from the site of Mr. Burdon's mansion, to the south, is the village Church, a very neat structure, erected by that gentleman in the year 1764. Under his fostering patronage also, two spacious squares of brick were built; and a cotton manufactory began at Castle Eden in 1792; but the latter was soon afterwards removed to Durham, and a sail-cloth manufactory established in its place. At the entrance of the road leading to the Castle, near the manufactory, is a handsome castellated lodge, built from the designs of Mr. Atkinson. A new road has also been opened from Norton to Bishop-Weremouth, which, from several points, commands grand and extensive views of the sea, and cannot be passed in a congenial season without exciting considerable admiration. The agriculture of the district has likewise been greatly improved; and a bleak and barren country is now beginning to assume an aspect of fertility. The improvement may in some measure be estimated by the increase of population, which, in this small parish, since

1792, has more than doubled: in that year its inhabitants were only 140, but under the late act were returned at 362.

HAWTHORN is a small village, pleasantly situated on a hill, about a mile from the sea, and contiguous to *Hawthorn Dean*, on the south side of which is an eminence called Beacon-Hill, where fires were formerly lighted to warn mariners from this dangerous coast. "The shore is rocky, and broken into a multitude of deep caverns; and the offing is full of rocks and shoals. In the mouth of a deep and narrow creek, where the rocks are the most broken, rugged, and romantic, Admiral Milbanke built a summer retreat, which he named *Sailors' Hall*; at high tide it almost overhangs the waves, and looks upon the most stormy and shaken part of the shore.

"In this part of the country are retained some ancient customs, evidently derived from the Romans; particularly that of dressing up a figure of Ceres during harvest, which is placed in the field whilst the reapers are laboring, and brought home on the last evening of reaping, with music and great acclamation: after this a feast is made, called the *mell supper*, from the ancient sacrifice of mingling the new meal."*

At SEAHAM, a small village on the coast, is a summer residence of Sir Ralph Milbanke, Bart. one of the Members of Parliament for this county. This place is said to have been restored to the See of Durham by King Athelstan; by what means it was afterwards alienated, is unknown; it is now freehold. A stone coffin was dug up in the church-yard a few years ago, and, from the inscription, *Hic jacet Richardus vic de Sehaia*m on the cover, was supposed to have contained the remains of Richard de Overton, whose name occurs on the list of incumbents in the year 1293.

HOUGHTON LE SPRING, an extensive village, situated at the head of a beautiful vale opening to the west, and sheltered from the bleak winds of the north and east by a chain of hills, forms part of the great possessions of the See of Durham, and is inhabited

* Hutchinson's Durham, Vol. II. p. 582.

bited by many respectable families. The rectory is one of the richest in the county, and contains no fewer than fourteen villages; yet such was the general ignorance, and so small was the communication between this and the other parts of England, that even on the accession of Queen Mary, the proclamations issued by Edward the Sixth, ordering a change of worship in the respective churches, are strongly reported to have been unheard of by the inhabitants. The first material advances towards improvement, were made by the benevolent and pious BERNARD GILPIN, who was presented to the rectory by Bishop Tunstall, and whose boundless charity, and meritorious exertions to enlighten his fellow-creatures, obtained him the pre-eminent appellation of the *Northern Apostle*. Mr. Gilpin descended from a very respectable family, and was born at Kentmire, in Westmoreland, in the year 1517. His early years were passed at a public Grammar School, whence, at the age of sixteen, he was removed to Queen's College, Oxford. Here his great progress in scholastic divinity, and the branches of abstruse learning connected with it, attracted general attention, and occasioned his appointment to supply the college newly founded by Cardinal Wolsey. Having been bred to the belief of the Roman Catholic religion, he for some time continued steady in his adherence to that faith; and even held disputations in its defence; but the eloquence and superior knowledge of Peter Martyn, with whom he last argued, induced him to give up the cause: "he owned publicly that he could not maintain it, and determined to enter into no more controversies till he gained full information of the subject." He afterwards communicated his doubts to Bishop Tunstall, his great-uncle by the female side, and as they were in no degree undiminished after some years further study, he determined, by the advice of that prelate, to visit the Continent, that he might satisfy his mind by conversing with the most eminent Protestant and Catholic professors. "His principal objection to the scheme was, that it would prove too expensive: but as to that, Tunstall wrote to him, that his living (Norton, in this diocese) would do something towards his maintenance, and he would supply deficiencies. This, however, did not remove the

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difficulty:

difficulty: Mr. Gilpin's notions of clerical duty were so strict, that he thought no excuse could justify non-residence for the considerable time that he intended to be abroad. He could not, therefore, think of supporting himself with any part of the income of his living; and resolved, if he staid the shorter time, to rely upon his own frugal management of the little money he had, and to leave the rest to the Bishop's generosity. Accordingly, he resigned his living in favor of a worthy man, with whose abilities and character he was well acquainted, and then set out for London, to receive his last orders from the Bishop, and to embark. The account of his resignation reached town before him; and gave Tunstall, who was anxious for his kinsman's thriving in the world, great concern. "There are your friends," he observed, "endeavoring to provide for you, and you are taking every method to frustrate their wishes; but be warned, by these courses, you will presently bring yourself to a morsel of bread." Mr. Gilpin begged the Bishop would attribute what he had done to a scrupulous conscience, which would not permit him to act otherwise.*

On the Continent, Mr. Gilpin became acquainted with the most celebrated controversialists of the age, and, by attending the most distinguished colleges and schools, obtained a thorough acquaintance with polemics; yet, as his researches were directed solely to the cause of truth, and not to the substantiation of received opinions, he now became a convert to the principles of the Reformation; and, in the year 1556, returned to England; though the persecution against Protestants under the bigotted Mary, was still raging in all its horrors. Soon after his arrival, Bishop Tunstall advanced him to the arch-deaconry of Durham, to which the rectory of Easington was annexed; but these benefices he was compelled to resign, through the strong opposition raised by the Catholic clergy, by whose influence a charge of heresy, consisting of thirteen articles, was preferred against him, but dismissed by the friendship of Tunstall, who soon afterwards presented him with the rectory of Houghton le Spring.

VOL. V.

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* Hutchinson's Durham, Vol. II. p. 547.

When this parish was thus committed to his direction, the ignorance of the inhabitants was extreme; but Mr. Gilpin, whose resolution to undertake, was equalled by his industry to accomplish, soon effected a considerable change both in their morals and conduct. His assiduity in the discharge of the duties of his function was exemplary. "When he first took upon himself the care of a parish, he laid it down as a maxim, to do all the good in his power there; and his whole conduct was one straight line, drawn to this point. He set out with making it his endeavor to gain the affection of his parishioners: many of his papers show how material a point he considered this. To succeed in it, however, he used no servile compliances; he studied that his means should be good, as well as his end. His behaviour was free, without levity; obliging, without meanness; and insinuating, without art. He condescended to the weak, bore with the passionate, and complied with the scrupulous; and in a truly 'apostolic manner,' became all things to all men. To his humanity and courtesy, was added an unwearied application to the instruction of those under his care. He was not satisfied with the advice he gave in public, but used to teach in private; and induced his parishioners to come to him with their doubts and difficulties. His manner towards those he thought well-disposed, was most engaging: nay, his reproof was so conducted, that it seldom gave offence; the becoming gentleness with which it was urged, making it always appear the effect of friendship. Thus with unceasing assiduity did he employ himself in admonishing the vicious, and encouraging the well-disposed, by which means, in a few years, he made a greater change in the neighbourhood, than could well be imagined: he attended to every thing which he conceived might be of service to his parishioners. He was assiduous to prevent all law-suits; and his hall was often thronged with people, who came to submit their differences to his judgment; for though he was not much acquainted with law, he could decide equitably, and that satisfied; nor could his Sovereign's commission have given him more weight than his own character."*

During

* Hutchinson's Durham, Vol. II. p. 552.

During the early part of Mr. Gilpin's residence at Houghton, his religious opinions, though unfolded with extreme reserve, were made the foundation of a second accusation before Bishop Tunstall, who again, however, found means to protect him: but his enemies were not to be thus silenced, and thirty-two articles were exhibited as charges against him before Bonner, Bishop of London, who gave orders for his immediate apprehension, and conveyance to the Metropolis. Gilpin, who knew the implacable zeal of this bigotted prelate, prepared for martyrdom; but an accident, by which his leg was broken, retarded his journey; and before he was again able to travel, the death of Queen Mary occasioned his being liberated, and thus released him from persecution.

The hospitality and charity of Mr. Gilpin, were only bounded by his means; and the latter, regulated by the most exact economy, enabled him to execute more than less strict accomptants could imagine possible. "His hospitable manner of living was the admiration of the whole country. Every Sunday, from Michaelmas till Easter, was a sort of public day with him: and during this season, he expected to see all his parishioners and their families. For their reception, he had three tables well covered: the first, for gentlemen; the second, for husbandmen, and farmers; and the third, for day-laborers. When he was absent from home, no alteration was made in his family expences: the poor were fed as usual, and his neighbours entertained. He spent in his family, every fortnight, forty bushels of corn, twenty bushels of malt, and a whole ox; besides a proportionable quantity of other kinds of provision. Strangers and travellers found in his house a cheerful reception; all were welcome that came; and even their horses had so much care taken of them, that it was humorously said, that, 'if a horse was turned loose in any part of the country, it would immediately make its way to the Rector of Houghton's.' So extensive was the fame of his hospitality, and virtues, that even the great Lord Burleigh condescended to visit him, on his return from transacting some state business in Scotland; and when taking his leave, told him, in all the warmth of

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sincerity,

sincerity, "He had heard great things in his commendation, but had now seen what far exceeded all that he had heard."

The endeavors of Mr. Gilpin, to promote and establish the happiness of his fellow-creatures, were not, however, confined to his cure. At the period in which he lived, "Redesdale and Tyne-dale, in Northumberland, of all barbarous places in the north, were looked upon to be the most barbarous; being the common theatre where the Scots and English were continually acting their bloody scenes. Inhabited by a kind of desperate banditti, rendered fierce and active by constant rapine, warfare, and alarms, they lived by theft, and used to plunder on both sides of the barrier. In this dreadful country, where no man would then even travel that could help it, he never failed to spend some part of the year;" the success of his disinterested exertions was very great; as his readiness to perform good offices was equal to his ability to give advice, and his person became revered and sacred, among the most desperate of the ferocious bands amidst whom he ventured.

Among the various benevolent purposes to which he appropriated his income, was the building and endowment of a Grammar-School in this village; which still flourishes, and has given education to many eminent men. He also fitted up part of his own house for the reception and tuition of scholars; and was at the expence of paying for the education and maintenance of others, whom he placed at the houses of different parishioners. Many of the children, whose early instruction he had thus provided for, he afterwards sent to the Universities, and there either wholly supported them, or furnished whatever assistance the circumstances of the students required.

The death of this truly estimable man was preceded by an unfortunate occurrence, that considerably added to the infirmities of declining age. While crossing the market-place at Durham, he was run at by an ox, and so greatly bruised by the violence with which the animal pushed him down, that his life was for some time in extreme danger; and though he recovered sufficiently to leave his chamber, yet he never regained his former strength,

and continued lame till the end of his days. He died in March, 1583, in the sixty-sixth year of his age. At the west end of his monument, in Houghton Church, is the following inscription in raised characters, divided by an escutcheon, displaying a boar resting against a tree, with a crescent cut on the side of the boar.

BERNERD	OBIT QUA
GILPIN RE	RTO DIE M
CTOR HV	ARTII AN.
JVS ECCLIAE	DOM. 1585.

The *Church* stands on a rising ground, in the centre of a square area, formed by the buildings in the lower part of the village; it is constructed in the form of a cross, and embattled, with a low tower, terminating in a spire, rising from the centre. Among the monuments is an altar-tomb, on which lies the effigy of a Knight in armour, with clasped hands, bearing a shield on his left arm, and reposing his head on a pillow. This is traditionally said to represent *Sir John le Spring*, the head of an ancient resident family; but Collins* refers it to "SIR ROWLAND BELASISE, of Bewley; knighted at the battle of Lewes, in Sussex, 48th of King Henry the Third, when the King was taken prisoner by Simon Montfort, Earl of Leicester, and other Barons." The *Belasise* family inhabited Morton-House, in this parish, in the time of Cardinal Langley. Some other memorials of them remain in the Church; one of which is a brass plate, displaying engraved portraits of MARGERY BELASISE, and her twelve children: the former died at the age of ninety, in the year 1587. Another inscription records the memory of MAJOR THOMAS LILBURN, who died in the year 1665. In this Church was formerly a chantry, and two guilds.

The *Rectorial Mansion* is a handsome stone edifice, forming one side of a court, having a lodge at the entrance, and being flanked by a chapel on one side, and an ancient tower on the other. The latter was erected about the year 1483, by the then incumbent, John Kelyng, who began to fortify "and embattle a house above the lower porch within his rectory with a wall of lime and stone, and to make a fortress of it without license." This offence, how-

* Peerage, Vol. III. p. 244.

ever, was pardoned by Bishop Dudley; and, in consideration of a fine paid, liberty was granted by that prelate, "to embattle the house, and make it a fortress for himself, and successors for ever." The rectory was afterwards repaired by the benevolent Bernard Gilpin; but having again become ruinous, was rebuilt, together with the chapel, by the Rev. George Davenport, who was rector between the years 1664 and 1667. The south front commands a fine and extensive prospect. Among the eminent Rectors of this parish, besides those already mentioned, may be enumerated, Emanuel Barnes, a person of great erudition, and son of Bishop Barnes; Augustin Lindsell, afterwards Bishop of Hereford, noticed in Fuller's Worthies, under Essex; Dr. Peter Heylin; Dr. Sancroft, afterwards Archbishop of Canterbury; Dr. Bagshaw, a famous preacher in London, in the seventeenth century; Sir George Wheeler, an antiquary and traveller; Dr. Secker, afterwards Archbishop of Canterbury; and Mr. Rotherham, a celebrated polemical writer.

The *Grammar-School* is a convenient building, standing in the Church-yard, with the Master's house adjoining; over the door is this inscription:

SCHOLA DE KEEPIER*
AB ELIZ. ANGLIÆ REGNINA,
Aº. MDLXXIV. FVNDATA
EX PROCVRATIONE I. HEATH, AR.
ET B. GILPIN, RECT. ECCL. HOUGHTO.
C. H† M. B. ALVMNVS POSVIT.
Aº. M.DCCXXIV.

On a line with the School to the south, is an Hospital for the reception of six poor people, who have each a certain sum, arising from different bequests annually, allowed for their maintenance. The population of this township, as returned under the late act, was 996; the number of houses 162; many of the latter are large and respectable buildings.

BISHOP

* Kecipier, near Durham, was the seat of the Heaths, and it is conjectured this was called Kecipier School in compliment to that family.

† Christopher Hunter, of Durham.

BISHOP WEARMOUTH AND SUNDERLAND

ARE so intimately united by buildings, and other local circumstances, that they may be said to form only one town; though the parishes are distinct, and have separate and independent places of worship. Sunderland is comparatively of modern origin, and has arrived at its present importance from the convenience of its port; but Bishop Wearmouth is a place of remote antiquity, and though its history is involved in much confusion, clearly appears to have been of consequence in the Saxon ages, as it was restored to the See of Durham by King Athelstan at the beginning of the tenth century, under the distinguishing appellation of the "delightful villa of South Weremouth."

The more ancient part of Bishop Wearmouth occupies the southern acclivity of an eminence south of the river Wear, and about one mile and a half distant from its junction with the sea. On the crown of the eminence is the *Church*, beyond which, to the north-east, a range of modern and handsome buildings have been erected on the *Pans*-fields, and connect with Sunderland. The latter extends along the southern bank of the Wear, almost to the sea shore; the upper part stands on the side of a hill, having a very quick descent both to the river and to the sea.

Bishop Wearmouth Church is a very ancient structure, supposed by Hutchinson to have been founded very soon after the restitution made by Athelstan: its original architecture, however, has, in a great measure, been obliterated by subsequent alterations. It is a low building, embattled, with a square tower: the interior consists of a nave, aisles, and chancel; the latter was greatly altered, and improved, by the Rev. Mr. Smith, who held the rectory about the commencement of the last century. The nave is divided from the aisles by two rows of three round columns, with rolls for capitals, supporting circular arches. "The rector of Bishop Wearmouth for the time being, is Lord of the Manor, and holds his courts, the customs and copyholds of which, are of the same nature with the customs and copyholds of the Bishop's manors."*

* Hutchinson, Vol. II. p. 514.

The present incumbent is the celebrated Dr. William Paley, Archdeacon of Carlisle, author of *Moral and Political Philosophy*; *Natural Theology*; and some other popular and esteemed works: the living is one of the most opulent in Durham. Near the Church is an *Hospital*, or *Alms-House*, erected and endowed for the maintenance of twelve poor men or women, by two sisters, Mrs. Jane Gibson, and Mrs. Euphemia Redman, in the year 1727. At that time, the produce of the endowment amounted to only 3l. annually to each person; but from the increase of the value of land, 96l. is now distributed among them every year. Another *Alms-House*, for twelve indigent men or women, was built and endowed by the Rev. Dr. John Bowes, in the year 1725; but the allowance for maintenance is very small. This building stands at the end of a square called Wearmouth Green, which, before the division of the parishes, was used as the market-place; but the market has since been removed to the High Street, in Sunderland.

But the principal structure on the Bishop Wearmouth side, and by far the greatest curiosity in this part of the country, is the magnificent IRON BRIDGE, of a single arch, which has been thrown over the river Wear, and connects with the new road leading to Newcastle and Shields. This noble fabric is indebted for its origin to the genuine patriotism of Rowland Burdon, Esq. of Castle Eden, who, assisted by the scientific abilities of Mr. Thomas Wilson,* Engineer, invented, and obtained a patent for the plan on which it is constructed. The principles of this plan are essentially different from those employed in any former bridge, attempted with similar materials; as it does not consist of long ribs of metal, approaching towards the centre, and sustained upon the abutments, but is constructed with *arch-pieces*, or *blocks*, as they are technically termed, “ answering to the key-stones of a common arch, which being brought to bear on each other, gives them all the firmness of the solid *stone* arch; whilst, by the great vacuities in the blocks, and their respective distances in their lateral

* This gentleman resides in a neat house, constructed for the purpose, at the head of the Bridge: since the finishing of the latter, he has erected some other cast iron bridges in different parts of the kingdom.

ral position, the arch becomes infinitely lighter than that of stone; and by the tenacity of the metal, the parts are so intimately connected, that the accurate calculation of the extrados and intrados, so necessary in stone arches of magnitude, is rendered of much less consequence.”* The blocks are wholly of *cast iron*; each of them five feet in height, four inches in thickness, two feet four inches and a half in length at top, and two feet four inches at bottom. The blocks are all cast in *one piece*; but it may be necessary, for the sake of perspicuity in description, to consider them as formed with bars of iron of the above dimensions. Each block will then appear to be composed of three pieces, placed horizontally, and two others in a vertical direction; the former crossing the latter at each extremity, and in the middle. By this construction, a square vacuity is left both above and below the piece which crosses the centre; and as the vertical pieces are not placed at the *ends* of the cross pieces, but about five inches inwards, when two blocks are banded together, the void space between the now united ends of the blocks, is of the same extent as that between the uprights. On each side of the horizontal, or cross pieces, is a flat groove, three inches broad, and three-fourths of an inch deep: in these grooves bars of *wrought*, or malleable iron, are inserted, of sufficient length to connect several blocks, and are fastened by square bolts driven through holes left at equal distances in each of the cross pieces; by these means the blocks are all firmly wedged together. The *Arch* is the segment of a circle about 444 feet in diameter, and is 236 feet eight inches in its chord, or span; it is formed by six ribs; each rib consisting of 105 blocks, which butt on each other in the same manner as the voussoirs of a stone arch. The ribs are respectively placed at six feet distance, but are connected and braced together, by hollow tubes or *bridles* of cast iron, with projecting shoulders at each end, into which the bolts that fasten the bars of malleable iron to the cross-pieces of the blocks, are also driven, and made fast by keys, or forelocks, that pass through the tails of the bolts and shoulders of the
bridles,

* See Specification of Patent.

bridles.* The versed sine, or spring of the arch, is only thirty-four feet; of course the spandrels require but little filling up; yet this is effected in the most light and elegant manner, by iron *circles*, placed upon the ribs, and gradually diminishing from the abutments to the centre of the bridge: these support the platform, which is a strong frame of timber, covered with marle, lime-stone, gravel, &c. with foot-paths of free-stone, and bounded by a neat iron ballustrade; above which, on each side, is the following inscription, chosen as a pious record of the successful completion of the work:

NIL DESPERANDUM AUSPICE DEO.

The whole weight of the iron that forms this immense structure, is 260 tons; of these 46 are malleable, and 214 cast. The piers, or abutments, are piles of almost solid masonry, twenty-four feet in thickness, forty-two in breadth at bottom, and thirty-seven at top. The south pier is founded on the solid rock, and rises from about twenty-two feet above the bed of the river: on the north side, the ground was not so favorable, so that the foundation was obliged to be carried ten feet below the bed. The first stone was laid on the twenty-fourth of September, 1793; with this inscription, written by Sir Pepper Arden, now Lord Alvanley.

Q u o

* “ This construction,” observes the editor of the Supplement to the Encyclopedia Britannica, under *Arch*, “ is beautifully simple, and very judicious. A vast addition of strength, and of stiffness, is procured by lodging the wrought iron bars in grooves formed in the cast-iron rails; and for this purpose it is of great importance to make the wrought iron bars fill the grooves completely, and even to be so tight as to require the force of the forelocks to draw them home to the bottom of the grooves. There can be no doubt, but that this arch is able to withstand an enormous pressure, as long as the abutments from which it springs do not yield; and of this there is hardly any risk. The mutual thrusts of the frames (or blocks) are all in the direction of the rails, so that no part bears any transverse strain. We can hardly conceive any force that can overcome the strength of those arms by pressure, or by crushing them. The manner in which the frames are connected into one rib, effectually secures the butting joints from slipping; and the accuracy with which the whole is executed, prevents any warping or deviation of a rib from the vertical plane.”

QUO TEMPORE
 CIVIUM GALLICORUM ARDOR VESANUS
 PRAVA JUBENTUM
 GENTIS TURBAVIT EUROPEAS
 FERRES BELLO,
Rolandus Burdon, Armiger.
 MELIORA COLENS
 VEDRÆ
 RIPAS, SCOPULIS PRÆRUPTAS
 PONTE CONJUNXIT FERREO.
 FELICITER FUNDAMINA POSUIT
 OCTAVO CALENDAS OCTOBRIS,
 ANNO SALUTIS HUMANÆ
 M,DCCXCIII.
 GEORGII TERTII XXXIII.
 ADSTANTE
 GULIELMO HENRICO LAMBTON, ARMIGERO
 PROVINCIALI SUMMO MAGISTRO
 FRATRUMQUE SOCIETATIS ARCHITECTONICÆ
 ET PRŒCERUM COMITATUS DUNELMENSIS
 SPECTABILI CORONA,
 POPULI QUOQUE PLURIMA COMITANTE CATERYA.
 MENEANT VESTIGIA DIU
 NON IRRITÆ SPEI.

The iron-work was cast by the Messrs. Walkers', of Rotherham; and the arch was turned upon a very light but firm scaffolding, so judiciously constructed by Mr. Wilson, that not any interruption was given to the passage of the numerous vessels that navigate the busy river of Sunderland. The mode of bracing the ribs was so simple and expeditious, that the whole was put together, and thrown over the river, in ten days, and the scaffolding immediately removed. The bridge was opened for general use on the ninth of August, 1796, after a very splendid ceremony and procession, in which the provincial grand lodge of Free-Masons in the county of Durham sustained a distinguished part; Mr. Burdon being for that day appointed Grand Master: the number of spectators was computed at 80,000.

Thus was this important undertaking brought to a successful conclusion; though during the progress of the work, the malignant

and illiterate had endeavored to impede its execution by direful forebodings. The expence amounted to 27,000*l.* of this sum Mr. Burdon, with a liberality worthy of the highest praise, subscribed 23,000*l.* the remainder was raised by subscription among the neighbouring gentlemen. To defray this expence, a small toll is levied on all passengers, which already produces more than the interest; and the overplus being applied to liquidate the principal, when that is effected, the bridge will be thrown open.* The centre of the arch is nearly 100 feet from the surface of the river at low water, so that vessels of from 200 to 300 tons burthen can pass under it without striking their masts. The vast utility of this structure may in a slight degree be estimated from the increased intercourse it has occasioned between the inhabitants of the opposite sides of the river, and which is rendered strikingly apparent by the receipts taken at the ferry below the bridge: these, prior to its erection, did not amount to 200*l.* per annum; but have since progressively increased, and now produce upwards of 500*l.*

Another structure on the Bishop Wearmouth side, but originating with the inhabitants of Sunderland, is the *Sunderland Subscription Library*, the foundation of which was laid on the sixth of May, 1801, in "the name of Almighty God, the fountain of Intelligence, and the source of Mind." The principal room is about thirty-one feet in length, twenty broad, and fifteen in height: on the same floor are two smaller apartments, for the accommodation of meetings of the members, committee, &c. The ground-floor is disposed into two shops, one of which is occupied by the Librarian, a respectable bookseller. The institution commenced in February, 1795; and though its progress was not rapid for a few years, of late its success has been more decided, and the collection contains a variety of valuable books.

The *Borough of Wearmouth* is noted in the Bolden Buke; and a charter of privileges was granted to the Burgesses by Bishop Pudsey,

* In the bridge now constructing by Mr. Wilson, between Egglescliffe and Yarm, (see page 96,) the bars of malleable iron which connect the cast iron blocks, are all to be inserted in cavities *within* the blocks, and being thus preserved from the action of the air, the fabric will probably be more durable.

Pudsey, about the commencement of the reign of Richard the First. In another grant by the same Prelate, dated 1154, are the words, *De Burgo de Weremue, alias Weremouth, modo Sunderland juxta mare*. Some privileges were also granted to the burgesses by Henry the Third.

SUNDERLAND, being originally part of Wearmouth parish, is not mentioned by historians as a distinct place, till its increasing commerce forced it into notice. The Bishops, in right of their palatine authority, leased out the ferry-boats and passage of the river; but no grants of anchorage or beaconage appear to have been made prior to the time of Bishop Tunstall, during whose prelacy, it may therefore be supposed to have obtained consequence.

After the statute of Henry the Eighth, by which the palatine jurisdiction was restrained and mutilated, Sunderland became of consequence, and assumed municipal importance, having its officers of distinction and police. Desirous of encouraging its rising trade, Bishop Morton, in the year 1634, incorporated the burgesses and inhabitants, by the title of Mayor, twelve Aldermen, and Commonalty of the Borough of Sunderland, and granted the privilege of a market and annual fairs.* This charter, through the distractions of the times which followed, was suffered to expire; but though the corporation lost its authority, the inhabitants contested their rights in various law-suits, particularly touching the herbage of the town moor, and its soil; and it was affirmed, that "Sunderland is an ancient borough, &c. that the twelve inferior burgesses are called *stallingers*; and that each freeman, occupying a house,

* The charter states, "That Sunderland had beyond the memory of man been an ancient borough, known by the name of the new borough of Weremouth, containing in itself a certain port, where ships had plied, bringing and carrying merchandize, as well to and from foreign parts, as from other parts of this kingdom: the articles therein specified, are sea-coals, grind-stones, rub-stones, and whet-stones. It also states, that the trade was then greatly increased by the multitude of ships resorting thither; and that the borough anciently enjoyed divers liberties and free customs, as well by prescription, as by virtue of sundry charters from the Bishops of Durham, confirmed to them by the Crown; which, from defect in form, proved insufficient for the support of the ancient liberties, privileges and free customs of the borough."

house, had commonage for two horses and four cows, and each stallinger for one cow; and that the widow of a freeman, or stallinger, being an inhabitant, had the like commonage after the husband's death."

When the regal jurisdiction of the Bishops of Durham was curtailed by Henry the Eighth, the conservatorship of the river Wear, and port of Sunderland, was vested in the Crown. Since that period, various acts have been passed for the preservation and improvement of the river and haven, and certain commissioners appointed as conservators. On the restoration of Charles the Second, that Monarch directed a commission to the Mayor, and four senior Aldermen, of Sunderland, and to Walter Ettrick, Esq. to administer the oaths of supremacy and obedience to the inhabitants; and in the twentieth year of his reign, he granted his letters patent, for erecting a light-house, piers, &c. and for preventing injury to the harbour, by heaving out ballast under severe penalties.

"Various conjectures," observes Mr. Hutchinson, "have been made touching the derivation of the name of Sunderland; some insisting that it is the ancient Saxon, *Sonderland*, signifying a particular precinct, with privileges of its own; others, that the name is expressive of a peninsula, severed and separated from the main land; and this latter appears the most probable; for we see, by the ancient records, that in Bishop Hatfield's time, *Hynden** was a place held by Thomas Menvyll for the plying of ships: if the sea, in the beginning of the fourteenth century, formed a creek or bay there, the land on which Sunderland now stands, would, at high water, be almost totally dissevered from the main; and the deep gullies shew a probability that such was the case. The shore has greatly changed its figure in the course of 400 years; and perhaps some art was used to exclude the sea from that course, when the haven of Sunderland grew into fame, and the coal trade began upon the Wear."†

The

* Hynden Lodge is nearly midway between Sunderland and Hynden Bay, on the south.

† History of Durham, Vol. II. p. 528.

The harbour of Sunderland is formed by two piers, situated on the south and north sides of the river: that on the south side is of long standing, and has undergone several repairs, having been much damaged by the high flood in November, 1771.* That on the north side has been constructed since the year 1788, and greatly contributes to the security of the shipping, by enabling the ebbing tide to acquire greater force to scour away the sand, which forms a bar at the entrance of the harbour. Formerly, the navigation of the river "was much impeded from the want of a sufficient depth of water to admit ships of any considerable burthen to put to sea with their whole lading; to remedy which, such vessels were obliged to take part of their cargoes in the open road, by which the keel-men, who bring down the coals from the staiths, were often exposed, in sudden storms, to danger,"† and sometimes lost. This inconvenience is, by the erection of the north pier, and other recent improvements, in a great measure removed; the tide now flows sixteen feet, and admits vessels of 300 and 400 tons burthen. Near the extremity of the north pier, an elegant circular light-house has been built, from the designs of Mr. Pickersnel, Engineer: it was finished in 1802. Before its erection, the only signal to enable mariners to enter the mouth of the river during the night, was a lantern hoisted on the flag-staff. The wreck of a very valuable vessel at the mouth of the harbour in the year 1799, gave rise to a subscription for the building of a Life-Boat; and one, on a similar plan to Mr. Greathead's, was accordingly constructed by Mr. W. Wake, of Monk Wearmouth.

The trade of Sunderland has long been in a state of progressive increase; but its augmentation during the latter part of the last century

* See p. 63.

† Walker's Gazetteer. The danger was, indeed, so great, that many of the larger vessels belonging to this port were obliged to take in their cargoes at Shields, though their voyage was not unfrequently delayed by the bar at the mouth of that harbour; and a fleet of colliers has been known to leave Sunderland, deliver their cargoes in London, and afterwards return, before another fleet at Shields, which was laden when the former departed, had been able to get over the bar.

century has been very rapid. The imports are corn, flour, wines, spirituous liquors, timber, tar, deals, flax, iron, &c. The exports are coal, lime, glass, glass bottles, grind-stones, and copperas. The coal trade is the principal, and furnishes employment for nearly 520 vessels, independent of the *keels*,* which convey the coal from the staiths to the ships, and are 492 in number. The coal is chiefly conveyed to the Metropolis; though great quantities are sent to the different ports of the Baltic, and in time of peace, to France and Holland: the whole quantity annually exported from Sunderland, amounts to about 315,000 Newcastle chaldrons.† The number of persons dependant on this trade is very great; and even some years ago, when the consumption was by no means so considerable as at present, they amounted to upwards of 26,000, on the river Wear only. The lime is principally sent to the coasts of Yorkshire and Scotland.

The parish of Sunderland was separated from Bishop Wearmouth, and established as an independent rectory, by an act of Parliament passed in the year 1719. The preamble states, "that Sunderland contains 6000 souls and upwards; and that a beautiful Church had been erected, together with a vestry room, and dwelling house for the minister." By this act also, a "vestry, or association of inhabitants, was instituted, consisting of twenty-four persons, having freehold estates of the yearly value of 10l. to be chosen by the parishioners, and to continue in office three years; and so a succession to be chosen every three years. In these

* The keels are flat-bottomed craft, each made to contain ten Newcastle chaldrons, (about $26\frac{1}{2}$ tons,) and marked with nails at the head and stern, that it may be readily known when they have their proper lading aboard. "Their name," observes Mr. Brand, in his History of Newcastle, "is very ancient, and of Saxon origin, for a ship or vessel. On the first arrival of the Saxons in this Island, they came over in three long ships, styled by themselves (as Verstegan informs us) *keeles*, or *kiules*. In the chartulary of Tynemouth monastery, the servants of the Prior, who wrought in the barges, are called (A. D. 1378) *kelers*; an appellation plainly synonymous with our *keelmen*."

† The Newcastle chaldron is 53 cwt. equal to 134.4 cubic feet; the London chaldron is equal to about 28 cwt. or 71 cubic feet.

these officers was vested a power to make ordinances and bye-laws for the regulation of the parish, to be ratified by the justices; to appoint a scavenger, and to assess on estates, real and personal, and stock in trade, a sufficient sum for the purposes therein mentioned, and particularly for paying the rector a yearly stipend of 80*l.* and to the clerk 10*l.*" The Church is a spacious and handsome fabric: the east end has a particularly light and elegant appearance, the altar being placed in a circular recess, surmounted by a dome. This alteration was projected about the year 1735, by the Rev. Mr. Newcombe, who was then rector. A new roof has been just built, under the direction of Mr. Wilson, the architect of Wearmouth Bridge; and it may be remarked, that the expence of constructing it, together with nineteen new windows, has been defrayed by the money obtained for the lead that was removed from the old roof, and which appears to have originally cost only 24*l.* This building not being sufficiently large for the increasing population of the town, about the year 1770, a very spacious *Chapel of Ease* was erected under the patronage of John Thornhill, Esq. a respectable neighbouring gentleman. Besides these places of worship, here are several meeting-houses for the respective denominations of Methodists, Presbyterians, Independents, Baptists, Quakers, &c. The principal Methodist meeting was opened in August, 1753: it is a handsome building, and capable of containing 1500 people. Several benevolent institutions exist in different parts of the town; particularly, a *Dispensary*, established in 1794; a *Humane Society*, begun about the year 1790; a *Charity* for decayed seamen, and seamens' widows; a *School* for girls, founded about the year 1770, in pursuance of a bequest made by the late Mrs. Donnison; and a *Blue Coat School* for boys: for the latter a new school-house is erecting by subscription: the expence of education is chiefly defrayed by the money collected from communicants at the times of administering the sacrament.

During the last war, on the moor eastward of the town, very extensive and commodious *Barracks* were erected, together with a guard-room, and other accommodations: they are sufficiently capacious for 1800 men, independent of officers, &c. At a short

distance to the south, on the very edge of the sea banks, is a strong *Chalybeate* spring, said to be scarcely less powerful than the chalybeate spring at Harrowgate: its situation renders the supposition extremely probable, that it will, ere long, be destroyed by the ravages of the sea.

For the amusement of the inhabitants, a large *Assembly-room* and *Theatre* have been built: the former under the inspection of the directors of the Muster Roll for Seamen, who use it for their own meetings on particular occasions: the latter is the property of Mr. Stephen Kemble; it is a neat edifice, and, when full, will contain about 80l. but its inconvenient situation, in a narrow lane, renders it almost inaccessible in a wet night, as no carriage can approach the doors. To facilitate the purposes of trade, two *Banks* have been established here within these few years.

The population of Sunderland, as returned under the late act, was 12,412: viz. 4902 males, and 7510 females: the number of houses, 1379. Of Bishop Wearmouth, the population was 6126: viz. 2706 males, and 3420 females: the number of houses, 890. Of Bishop-Wearmouth Pans, the population was 564: viz. 279 males, and 285 females: the number of houses, 56. The population, therefore, of the whole place, as appears from these returns, was 19,102: the houses, 2325. The number of persons actually residing here, must, however, be considerably greater, as no sailors, nor others employed on the water, were included in the above returns. The most respectable buildings are in Bishop-Wearmouth, and the High Street of Sunderland; the lower part of the latter is, however, much disfigured by the stalls and shambles which are suffered to stand on each side the highway. Many of the inhabitants derive employment from a *patent Ropery*, established since 1795, on the banks of the river, about one mile from Bishop-Wearmouth; from the manufacture of bottles and broad glass; and of white and brown earthen-ware. Additional employment is furnished by a copperas manufactory; and various free-stone quarries in the neighbourhood. An amusing scene to a stranger, is displayed by the number of the lower class of inhabitants, who attend the rising of the tide on the sea-shore be-

low the town, and with small hand-baskets catch the small coals that are floated in by the waves. At these times, different parties, of from ten to thirty or forty persons, chiefly women and girls, may be seen entering the water, and exhibiting considerable dexterity, in advancing or receding, according to the strength of the waves, which frequently cover them from the middle downwards. As the coals are caught in the baskets, they are thrown in heaps on the sand, and afterwards carried away, either to burn at home, or be disposed of to the less venturous. It has been asserted as a fact, that, previous to the establishment of the various manufactories in this vicinity, that upwards of 500 poor people have been engaged at one time in this singular occupation.

MONK WEARMOUTH, which holds nearly the same relation to Sunderland, as Southwark does to London, is situated on the north and opposite banks of the Wear. Its antiquity is remote, and perhaps connected with a religious society, established here by the same St. Bega, who founded the monasteries at St. Bees, in Cumberland, and at Hartlepool in this county. This establishment was probably swallowed up in a more splendid foundation by Benedict Biscop, or Biscopius, who, in the fourth year of Egfrid, King of Northumberland, (A. D. 674,) obtained a grant of sixty hides of land, on which he built an abbey, and dedicated it to St. Peter. Biscopius was an Englishman, and has the credit of having been one of the first persons who introduced the useful and ornamental arts into this kingdom. Lambarde, who seems to regard the fine arts with sovereign contempt, thus speaks of him; "This man laboured to Rome five several tymes, for what other thinge I find not, save only to procure pope-holye privileges, and curious ornaments for his monasteries, Jarrow and Weremouth; for first he gotte for theise houses, wherein he nourished 600 monks, great liberties; then brought he them home from Rome, *painters, glasiars, free-masons, and singers*, to th' end that his buildings might so shyne with workmanshipe, and his churches so sounde with melodye, that simple souls ravished therewith, should fantasie of theime nothinge but heavenly holynes: in this jolitie continued theise houses, and other by their example embraced

the like, till Hinguar and Hubba, the Danish pyrates, (A. D. 870,) weare raised by God to abate their pride, who not only fyred and spoyled them, but also almost all the religious houses on the north-east coast of this Island. And of these thinges Beda, and others, note him the first author, ascribinge fondlye to his praise, that whiche worthelye may be written to his discommendation; for by theise and suche other vanities of will worship, the spiritual service of God began first to be weakened." Though our author is thus severe upon the conduct of the English Saint, (whose followers, from his name, obtained the appellation of Benedictines,) posterity must regard his memory with more justice, and revere the man that at such an early period, could combat the prejudices of ignorance, and introduce into his country, useful and elegant improvements.

It appears from Bede,* that, soon after Biscopius had laid the foundation of his abbey, he went to France, and engaged a great number of masons, and brought them over to build his Church with stone, after the manner of the Romans, which he admired. "The Church was dedicated to St. Peter; and he urged the workmen to labor so diligently, that in a year after mass was said in it. When the work was far advanced, he sent agents into France, to procure, if possible, some *glass-makers*; a kind of workmen altogether unknown to the Saxons at that period. His agents succeeded, and several of these artizans came over into Britain, and not only glazed the windows in the church and monastery which Benedict had built, but also instructed the Saxons in the art of making glass, for windows, lamps, drinking vessels, and other uses."† Thus Monk Wearmouth had the honor of being the earliest *glazed* church in England: before this time, the windows were either latticed, or, at best, filled up with fine linen cloths, stretched upon frames of wood.

Nothing further occurs respecting the remote antiquity of this foundation, nor how it was restored after its destruction by the Danes, but that it was restored, is evident from its having been a
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* Hist. Abbot Weremuthen.

† Strutt's Chronicle.

second time destroyed, during the irruption of the Scots under King Malcolm, in the year 1070, when many parts of the palatinate were ravaged by fire. It seems probable, that the expedition of Malcolm was, in some degree, planned to favor the retreat of Edgar Atheling, who, with his mother, sisters, and principal adherents, was embarked, and lying in the haven, waiting wind and tide for his voyage to Scotland.*

The monks, who were thus expelled from Wearmouth, appear to have taken refuge at Jarrow, which probably becoming too crowded from this increase, sent forth a colony that settled at Melross, in Scotland, but soon afterwards returned, by the orders of Bishop Walcher, and was by him fixed at Wearmouth. Here, however, the Benedictines did not remain; for Bishop William de Carlepho, in the year 1083, removed them to Durham; and from this period Wearmouth became a subordinate cell to the monastery in that city. Its annual value, at the Dissolution, amounted to only 26l. 9s. 9d.

Several remains of the monastic buildings occur in the parts adjacent to the *Church*, which is an irregular building, only consisting of a tower, nave, and one aisle: the former is the most ancient, probably, of the eleventh century, and is supported on heavy, low arches. On the north wall of the chancel is a monument of the Hilton family, to which a mutilated effigy of a man, in a coat of mail, with elevated hands, and a sword sheathed at his left side, appears to have belonged.

Monk Wearmouth has shared in the growing prosperity of Sunderland, and its population and buildings have greatly increased within the last forty years. The number of inhabitants was reported under the late act at 5342; of these 1103 are returned as residents in the part called Monk Wearmouth town; and 4239 as inhabitants of Monk Wearmouth shore. The total number of houses was 603. The laboring class of males derive their chief employment from ship-building, and its dependent branches; several yards being established here for that purpose.

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* Margaret, Edgar's sister, was married to Malcolm soon after their arrival in that country.

On **FULWELL HILLS**, a gigantic skeleton, and two Roman coins, were discovered about forty-five years ago, together with a small urn of unbaked clay: the latter is now in the possession of Mr. Wilson, of Wearmouth Bridge. The following particulars of the discovery were communicated by P. Collinson, the historian of Somersetshire, to the *Gentleman's Magazine*, in October, 1763. "A few weeks ago, a gentleman from Durham showed me some large teeth and two Roman coins. The teeth, he said, he took out of the jaw of a gigantic skeleton of a man, and the coins were found in a grave near it. The account he gives is in substance as follows. Upon Fulwell Hills, near Monk Weremouth, within a measured mile of the sea, there are quarries of lime, which he rents of the proprietor. In the year 1759, he removed a ridge of lime stone and rubbish, upon one of these quarries, which was about twenty-five yards in length from east to west, its perpendicular height about a yard and a half, its breadth at the top was near six yards, and the sides were sloping like the ruins of a rampart. In the middle of this bank was found the skeleton of a human body, which measured nine feet six inches in length; the shin-bone measuring two feet three inches from the knee to the ankle; the head lay to the west, and was defended from the superincumbent earth by four large flat stones, which the relater, a man of great probity, who was present when the skeleton was measured, and who himself took the teeth out of the jaw, saw removed. The coins were found on the south side of the skeleton, near the right hand."

HILTON CASTLE, the ancient baronial residence of the *Hyltons*, is situated in a pleasant vale, on the north side of the Wear, about three miles from Wearmouth. This family was in possession of the manor as early as the time of King Athelstan, and continued seized till the year 1746, when John Hilton, Esq. the last male heir, died, having previously bequeathed his estates to his nephew, Sir Richard Musgrave, of Hayton Castle, Cumberland. This gentleman died in 1755; but the Castle, and nearly all the family estates, had before been sold, under a legal decree, to discharge the debts of Mr. Hilton. Afterwards, in 1758, the Castle
and

and manor of Hilton, with other lands, were purchased by Mrs. Bowes, relict of George Bowes, of Gibside, and mother of the late celebrated Countess of Strathmore, whose descendants are still owners.

In a manuscript account of the former proprietors of this Castle, in the possession of the Musgraves of Hayton, it is observed, that several names occur in the pedigree of the Hyltons, remarkable for their learning and piety; but that those highly renowned for their martial deeds are almost innumerable. "War seems to have been their peculiar genius, and recreation; nor has any family been more lavish of their blood in defence of their country's cause. Since the time of the Conquest, it is remarked by the Hyltons, that one was slain at Feversham, in Kent; one in Normandy; one at Mentz, in France; three in the Holy Wars, under Richard the First; one in the same, under Edward the First; three at the battle of Bourdeaux, under the Black Prince; one at Agincourt; two at Berwick upon Tweed, against the Scots; two at the battle of St. Albans; five at Market-Bosworth, and four at Flodden Field." This family was not only one of the most eminent, but also one of the most opulent in the bishopric.

When, or by whom, Hilton Castle was founded, has not been ascertained; nor are we acquainted with the form or extent of the original structure, it having undergone several important alterations. Its present form is that of an oblong square; the central part is evidently the most ancient; the sides are of modern construction: its general appearance is that of a fortified mansion. "The centre of the west front consists of the great entrance and gateway, defended by square projecting turrets, crowned with hanging parapets which cross the angles transversely, like those on the old towers at Lumley, so as to make an aperture on each face of the square, for the purpose of annoying assailants: the centre is flanked by circular turrets; and the battlements of the ancient part ornamented with figures. On this front are several shields of arms, but disposed so irregularly, as to testify that this front did not first receive them. In the highest place are the royal arms, three fleurs de lis quartering three lions passant; and beneath, in

a confused form, the arms of Graystocke, Lumley, Brabant, Percy, Ogle, Conyers, and others. The east front has an ancient tower in the centre, with a square projecting front, without turrets: it is ornamented with the arms of the Hiltons, without quarterings.”* The interior consists of five stories; the rooms are chiefly small, and exhibit every symptom of neglect, being wholly unfurnished, and in a complete state of decay. The saloon is the only spacious apartment, and was once finely ornamented with representations of various kinds of fish, and other figures. On a small eminence near the Castle, is a ruined Chapel, beneath which several of the Hiltons lie buried, licence having been procured for that purpose from the Prior and Convent of Durham. Bishop Gibson mentions it as a “fine structure, wherein there were Chaplains in constant attendance.”

BOLDEN is only of note from having given title to the provincial Domesday-Book, called the *Bolden Buke* from its frequent reference to services within this manor. The villains held under severe tenures, being obliged to labor three days in each week, excepting the weeks of Easter and Whitsuntide, and thirteen days at Christmas; besides making various payments.

WHITBURN, a small village, situated on the southern acclivity of an eminence, rising near the sea shore between Sunderland and Shields, has, from its extreme pleasantness, become the residence of several respectable families; and among others, that of Sir Hedworth Williamson, hereditary High Sheriff of Durham, who possesses a portion of the manor. The laboring class of inhabitants are chiefly employed in the fishing trade, and great quantities of fine fish are caught off the coast, and conveyed to the Sunderland and Shields markets. “Several copper coins have been found at this place; of which the most were Constantinus, with the sun on the reverse, and the words *solī invicto comiti*: one of them was a Maxentius, with something like a triumphal arch on the reverse, and these words, *Conservatori urbis*: there were also one or two of Licinius’s, and as many of Maximianus’s.”

The

* Complete History of Durham, p. 620.

The sea-shore, between the north pier of Sunderland Harbour and South Shields, is bounded by lofty rocks, which in places assume a singular and grotesque appearance, particularly about one mile from the Suter Point, where an enormous craggy mass, bearing the name of MARSTON ROCK, has been detached from the coast by the violence of the sea, and at high water is fifty or sixty yards from the land, though within memory it was so near as to have been reached by a plank. All the intermediate part has been washed away, and even a large aperture formed by the force of the waves in the body of the rock, through which sailing-boats have frequently passed at convenient stages of the tide. Vast numbers of sea-fowl used to build their nests on this rock, and the quantity of manure they left was so great, that it was collected at the expiration of every five or seven years, and generally sold for eighty or a hundred pounds. To facilitate its conveyance to the summit of the cliffs, a circular hole was made in the roof of a recess or cavern in the rocks, through which it was drawn in baskets. Adjacent to Marston Rock, are other large and irregular masses that have been separated from the land, and rear their gigantic forms with considerable majesty.

WESTOE is an extremely pleasant village, situated on an eminence about ten miles from South Shields, and commanding a fine view of the German Ocean. It consists chiefly of one street, formed by respectable buildings, and inhabited by successful maritime adventurers, who have retired hither from Shields.

SOUTH SHIELDS,

THE second place in Durham, both with respect to trade and population, ranges along the southern bank of the Tyne, near its junction with the sea, and, together with North Shields, on the opposite side of the river, in Northumberland, forms a very considerable maritime port. The eminence on the south point of the harbour, was unquestionably the site of a Roman station, though its name has not hitherto been assigned by any of the learned antiquaries that have noticed it. Horsley, indeed,* who supports the

* *Britannia Romana*, p. 449.

the opinion of the Tyne having been the *Vedræ* of Ptolemy, observes, that the *Ostia Vedræ* of that author may as well be the "name of the station as of the river's mouth," and that unless it is, it does not seem to be named either in Ptolemy, the Itinerary, (Antoninus's,) or the Notitia. Had that gentleman, however, been fortunate enough to have seen the Itinerary of Richard of Cirencester,* he would have discovered the appellation *Ad Tinam*, and undoubtedly referred it to its proper place, South Shields.† The proofs of this having been a Roman station, are positive as well as presumptive: among the latter may be mentioned its situation at the end of the road, named the Wreken Dyke, and its importance towards the defence of the mouth of the Tyne; the former are established by the Roman altars, coins, and other relics of that people, which have been dug up here at different times.

Mr.

* First published by Dr. Stukeley in the year 1757.

† "Give me leave," observes Dr. Hunter of Durham, in a letter to Roger Gale, Esq. dated May 17th, 1735, "to attempt the recovery of one of the Roman stations in this county, both requisite for the security of the navigation into the northern seas, and the protection of their frontiers beyond the river Tyne; thereby saving the great expence and trouble of building the wall as far as the sea at Tinemouth, no less than three miles. I mean that near South Shields, at the entrance of the river into the ocean, and which cannot but have flourished till the Danish invasion, as Mr. Leland has it in his *Collectanea*, Vol. IV. p. 43. *E regione Tinemuthæ fuit urbs vastata a Danis, Urfa nomine, ubi natus erat Oswinus rex.* The communication there was with Binchester, is visible in several places, as is the angle where the paved way goes off from the military way leading to Lanchester, about three miles to the north of Binchester, and passes to the north-east through Brancepeth Park, thence a little to the south of Brandon, and is lost in the cultivated grounds; but appearing upon Durham Moor in the same direction again, passing by Hag-house, and below upon Harbrass Moor, is very visible, tending past Lumley Castle, in a direct line, towards South Shields, passing about a mile east of that of Chester-in-the-Street, without any signs of communication therewith. Two elevated pavements in the river Tyne, the one at the west end of South Shields, the other on the north side of the river, near the end of the Roman wall, proper for their safe landing at different times of the ebbing and flowing tide, fully shew its necessary correspondence with *Segedūnum*, the first station upon the wall. But another
military

Mr. Horsley mentions an altar which he saw lying at the north-west corner of the station, and which Dr. Hunter afterwards had removed to the Library at Durham. The inscription was effaced; but the sides displayed the usual sacrificing vessels, and on the back was sculptured the knife. He also notices two other altars that were found here; one of which was built up in a quay wall, and the other sent to Dr. Lister, at York, who published the unobliterated part of the inscription in the *Philosophical Transactions*: this Horsley reads as follows: *Dis Matribus pro salute imperatoris Marci Aurelii Antonini Augusti pii felicitis lubens merito ob reditum*: another altar, noticed by Dr. Lister, was dedicated to the *DEÆ MATRES*.

“ IN

military way, called Wreken Dyke, which passed from this station to the west, has hitherto frustrated the enquiries of our late antiquaries: Mr. Horsley himself, pointed out its ductus, very justly, over Gateshead Fell, where it passed the public road, and a little to the west the Roman way, going to the south from Newcastle to Chester-in-the Street, and afterwards running through Lamesley and Kibblesworth fields, it advances to the south-west over Blackburn Moor, and through the township of Hedley. It comes next to Causey, a village which owes its name to it, and from thence ascends a high hill, and terminates at a square fortification upon the top thereof at Stanley, the seat of the Hon. Sir Nicholas Tempest, Bart. who, I am told, possesses several Roman coins found therein. This place, though not above three miles from Chester-in-the-Street, and four from Lanchester, seems to have no immediate communication with either of them, no vestigia of any paved way appearing upon the moors adjoining, and being situated as Chester itself, at the termination of a military way, gives me convincing reason to believe the use of each has been the same, namely, to guard herds of cattle at grass, for the subsistence of the two garrisons at South Shields and Pons Ælij, and for victualling ships resorting to the first place: whereas had its elevated situation been intended to form a *castrum exblatorium*, then must the advantage of paved ways to the next station, have been necessary for the speedy conveyance of intelligence. Though this last military way bears the name of Wreken Dyke, I am apt to believe that name is rather due to the way leading from Binchester to South Shields, especially from the authority of Ralph Higden, who says, that Wreken Dyke, or Reken Dyke, passed from the west of England, and ended at Tinemouth. I dare not affix a Roman name to this our station, without the authority of inscriptions.”

“In digging up the foundations of Tynemouth Castle,” observes Mr. Gough,* “near the ruins of the monastery, and north of the old castle wall, in the year 1783, was found an altar with the following inscription :

I. O. M
 AIIRVIVS
 PRAII · COH
 IIII KINCO
 NVM.

*Jovi optimo Maximo
 Aelius Rufus
 præfectus cohortis
 IIII . Lingo
 num.*

“On one side are the prefericulum, securis, secespita, and ox-head ; on the other a patera with festoons. Here was dug up also a stone about one foot nine inches by one foot ten, with the following inscription ; the first line completely indistinct, and the second very obscure :

TYPVM CVMBA
 ARII . MPLVM
 FECIT CIV
 MAXIMINVS
 LEG VI. V
 EX VOTO.

which has been thus differently read :

*Gyrum, Cumbas
 et Templum
 fecit Caius Julius
 Maximinus
 Legionis sextæ victricis
 Ex voto.**

Cippum cum basi ; or, Publicum civium basilicam.

“ Whatever

* Additions to the Britannia, Vol. III. p. 254.

* “ This inscription has been referred to Maximinus, afterwards Emperor from A. D. 235 to A. D. 238. His full name was Caius Julius *Verus* Maximinus,

"Whatever construction," continues Mr. Gough, after some prefatory matter, "this inscription may be thought capable of in its imperfect state, it certainly ascribes to the place where it was discovered, or to which it *belonged*, a degree of consequence that has not hitherto been acknowledged." He afterwards refers it to South Shields; and remarks, that whatever "name we adopt for this hitherto so little noticed station, the discovery of these two inscriptions,

minus, on all the inscriptions that mention him;* though Aurelius Victor calls him only C. J. Maximinus, without the addition of Verus. His rank is also omitted in this inscription: Julius Capotilinus, who wrote his life, does not, indeed, mention his being raised to the command of a legion. He was a particular favorite with the Emperor Severus, who, on account of his great bodily strength and activity when a common soldier, placed him about his person as one of his guards, and intrusted to him the charge of several military posts; for so Casaubon understands *locis etiam militiæ a Severo adjutus*, which may only mean that he promoted him in different departments. Under his son and successor Caracalla, he was a Centurion, and commander of small detachments, and held other ranks in the army frequently.† Under Heliogabulus, he was only promoted to the rank of Tribune; and Alexander Severus made him Tribune of the new-raised fourth legion; but at last, fatally for himself, appointed him a commander in chief. We may therefore fairly conclude, that the rank he bore in Britain may have been Centurion, or a Tribune, of the sixth legion: the first under Severus, or Caracalla, who spent much time on this Island: the latter, under Alexander Severus, who, according to his biographer, Lampridius, not only was in it, but lost his life in it. Thus the inscription is to be supplied with a centurial mark, or the letters TR, or TRIB; and the interval in Mr. Horsley,‡ between the reigns of Alexander Severus and the Gordians, may be filled up with more certainty than he has done by an inscription in Cumb. IX. barely from the letters PETVO, making the name of Perpetuus, who was Consul A. D. 237; and thus, without confining the date of this inscription to some little time before A. D. 245, we have thirty years to range in. If Mr. Horsley is right in his conjecture on two inscriptions in Scotland, III and IV, parts of the wall were built *Ex Voto*; we cannot therefore be surprised at seeing the phrase applied to other buildings besides a temple." *Britannia, Vol. III. p. 255.*

* See Gruter CLI. 5. CLV. III. 6.

† *Ordines duxit centuriates, et cæteras militares dignitates sæpe tractavit.*

‡ *Britannia Romana, p. 67.*

inscriptions, which were probably conveyed over the river with the rest of its materials to build the first Christian Church at Tinemouth, proclaim it a place of no little consequence, and to have been decorated with a temple, and other public buildings, and those erected by the liberality and devotion of Maximinus. These two inscriptions are now in the possession of the Society of Antiquaries of London.”* Mr. Gough’s opinion relative to the consequence of this station has been corroborated by recent discoveries; as various Roman coins,† broken inscriptions, and the remains of an *Hypocaust*, or *Sudatory*, were dug up here in the beginning of the year 1798: a slight drawing of the latter is in the possession of Nicholas Fairles, Esq. of this town, as well as some fragments of the building, and several coins; particularly a small gold one, in very high preservation, of Marcus Aurelius Antoninus. That the station itself was in being in the time of this Emperor, appears, observes Mr. Horsley, “from the altar and inscription found here; but I am apt to think it was abandoned not very long after, perhaps at the building of Severus’s wall, and the station erected at Cousin’s house, or a little after.” The latter supposition is inaccurate, as the coins mentioned in the note evidently prove, for Severus died at York either at the end of the year 210, or beginning of 211. When the station was really abandoned, is uncertain; but assuredly it was not so early as the time of Valentinian. The site of the station comprehends several acres: part of it is now occupied by a building called the Law House. In the adjacent grounds, broken pottery, and foundations of houses, are frequently dug up.

Whatever might have been the splendor of *Ad Tinam*, it most probably very quickly vanished after the departure of the Romans:

* Additions to the Britannia, Vol. III. p. 255.

† “The following are the descriptions of two of the coins: *Imp. Claudius Aug. (caput Claudii Gothici) Marti Pacifero. Figura militaris stans, dextra ramum olæ portendens, sinistra hastam—circiter A. D. 268.—Q. D. N. Valentinianus P. F. Aug. (caput Valentiniani) gloria Romanorum. Figura militaris, dextra captivum cinibus trahens, sinistra labaram tenens—circiter A. D. 371.*” *Monthly Mag. Vol. V. p. 229*: probably from the Tyne Mercury.

mans: even its name was forgotten; and the present appellation of the town must be sought in more humble sources. There is little doubt but it originated with the fishermen who frequented the Tyne, and who, on both sides of the river, erected a few miserable huts, or sheds, called *Shields*, or *Sheels*, almost universally in the northern district, to screen themselves from the severity of the weather. The far-fetched inference of Shields being a corruption of St. Hilda, to whom the church is dedicated, is unworthy of a remark.

The present importance of South Shields has principally arisen from its very favorable situation for commercial purposes; but its appearance is much disfigured, though rendered extremely singular, by a vast number of high artificial hills, extending on the east and south sides of the town, formed by the cinders from the salt-works, the refuse of the glass-houses, and the Thames gravel that has been taken up as ballast by light colliers, and afterwards thrown out near the river's banks. Some of the hills are built upon; and have a very curious aspect when viewed from the south on the road near Westoe. Most of the streets are narrow, and inconvenient, and the houses indifferently built, with the exception of those in the Market-Place, and on the Bank Top. This may be ascribed, principally, to the whole town, three houses, and a Meeting-House excepted, being held by lease under the Dean and Chapter of Durham, a tenure by no means favorable to improvement.

South Shields was formerly famous for its salt-works; and between sixty and eighty years ago, nearly 200 large iron pans were constantly employed in the manufacture of that useful article; but this trade has been declining for the last fifty years; the manufacturers having lost the London market, which is now chiefly supplied from the works at Liverpool. The number of pans now employed for making salt in this town, is only nine: these are supplied with sea-water from reservoirs filled by the tide, and the water being evaporated by boiling, the salt remains, and is afterwards refined for use. The ground formerly occupied by the pans, has been converted into yards and docks for building and repairing

repairing ships; and from Shields Harbour (or Tynemouth Haven) being the great rendezvous for the shipping taken up in the coal trade, these docks are constantly employed: the dry docks, which are nine in number, are convenient, and sufficiently capacious for thirteen vessels. Another principal branch of trade arises from the glass-works: here are three glass-houses for the manufacture of crown glass; four, for that of bottles; and one white glass manufactory.

A new mode of insurance, termed *Mutual*, was introduced at Shields, a few years ago, by the ship owners; a certain number of whom agree to insure a given sum on each other's ship; and when a loss happens, the sufferer receives the amount insured on his ship from the other members, who pay in the same proportion as their own ships are insured: no premium is given; the consideration being, "the risk each takes upon the other." These are called Insurance Clubs; in some of them every member takes 1200*l.* upon each ship; while in others, various sums, from 200*l.* to 1500*l.* are taken upon each ship by the individuals of the society, who contribute to any loss, in the same ratio as their own insurance. Speaking generally, it may be affirmed, that all the ships of the Tyne, now amounting to some hundred vessels, and averaging about 250 register tons each, are insured in this manner. The greatest part of the ships registered at the Newcastle Custom-House, belongs to North and South Shields, and, besides carrying on the coal trade, are much employed in the Baltic trade; and in war time, in the royal transport service. The seamen and pilots are reckoned among the most skilful and expert in the kingdom.

Considerable advantages would accrue to Shields, if the *Mill Dam*, a small bay, or inlet, at the upper end of the town, was formed into a wet dock, for which purpose it would seem to have been naturally intended, from its convenient situation; but this improvement, which, from the vast increase of shipping in the Tyne, is much wanted, is about to be lost to it for ever, as the dam is now filling up by direction of the Corporation of Newcastle, who are *Conservators* of the river, and hold their ground under

the Dean and Chapter of Durham. Though the port dues have greatly increased, scarcely any thing has been lately expended by this body, either in the preservation or improvement of the harbour.

The augmentation in the trade of Shields was particularly great during the last century; even so late as fifty or sixty years since, the number of ships belonging to this town is said to have been only four;* though they now amount to upwards of 500. The increase of population rendering a market necessary, a charter was granted in 1770, by Bishop Trevor, empowering the inhabitants to hold a market weekly, and two fairs annually. The market-place is a spacious square, built, with the exception of the Chapel, which forms the south side, about the year 1768; the houses are mostly good: in the centre is a respectable *Town-House*, with a colonnade beneath, erected at the expence of the Dean and Chapter.

The *Chapel* is parochial under Jarrow; but when it was founded is unknown; and no part of its antiquity can be traced in the building, as it has been twice altered, and much enlarged, within the last fifty years. The interior is neatly fitted up; and on the chain above the chandelier, is preserved a very elegant model of the *LIFE BOAT*, presented by Mr. Henry Greathead, the inventor, who resides in this town, where the first boat on this plan was constructed. The following inscription, commemorative of the fate of an entire family, is recorded on a neat tablet:

To the Memory of GEO: YEOMAN of Harton (in
this County) Esq^{re}. who died January 23. 1785, aged 52
Years, Also of ESTER his Daughter an Infant,
And of ANN his Daughter, who died on the 11th. Nov^r. 1793
Aged 18, Cut off by the corroding influence of a consumption,
Just as she was entering a World in which her Beauty
her Gentleness, and accomplishments would have attracted
universal esteem—Likewise of George John and Henry his Sons.
Who returning from Quebeck were shipwrecked
On the Lands End on the 17th. Dec^r. 1797.
GEORGE aged 23. JOHN 20. HENRY 18 Years.

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Which

* Hutchinson's Durham, Vol. II. p. 483.

Which unhappy Catastrophe while it filled the Heart
 of their surviving Parent with the most Poignant Sorrow,
 diffus'd a Gloom over the whole Circle of the neighbourhood;
 for the pleasing Expectations which the Manhood of
 George had already confirmed, the less mature
 Years of his Brothers promised to fulfill.

Also to the Memory of an afflicted Parent's last
 remaining hope THOMAS who died March 19. 1799 Aged 18 Years,
 This Monument, the sad Memorial of no common devastation
 Is consecrated by the Widowed Wife, and childless MOTHER.
 Stranger, if thou hast met with Affliction,
 Ponder o'er the rapid Destruction of this once flourishing Family
 And in contemplating the Sorrows of a forlorn Mother,
 Forget for a while thine own.

On the 19th. of March 1803
 having borne with the meek and resigned Spirit of a Christian
 the repeated deprivations of her Husband and Children
 it pleased God to call from this Trial
 of her Fortitude and Submission

ANN YEOMAN,

The Wife and Mother of the above recorded deceased
 Aged 60 Years :

by whose Death no vestige of the existence of this Family remains
 save this poor Memorial—

Near the tower of the Church, on the outside, was interred
 “ the body of Sir William Hamelton, Knt. and Bart. sonne to the
 Earl of Abercorne, and late servant to Henrietta, the late queen-
 mother of our soveraigne Lord King Charles the Second, that is
 now over England, &c.” He died on the 28th of June, in the
 year 1681. In the church-yard are several memorials of longe-
 vity; particularly a record of the deaths of *Ralph Harrison*, and
Dorothy, his wife; the former at the age of ninety-eight, the latter
 at that of ninety-three; after “ living man and wife together, se-
 venty-four years.” Another inscription mentions the death of
Mrs. Dorothy Watson, wife to W. Watson, Esq. Sheriff of York,
 who died in 1705, aged eighty-three; having “ lived to see the
 fourth generation, to the number of 116 children, sprung from
 herself.” The south-west prospect from the church-yard is inter-
 resting.

resting, from including a view of Jarrow, and its ruined monastery.

That very admirable invention, the LIFE-BOAT,* which has already been the means of preserving the existence of several hundred persons in different parts of the kingdom, owes its origin to a society of gentlemen, who held their meetings at the *Law-House*, before mentioned as having been erected on the site of the Roman station. The scheme was suggested by the melancholy loss of the crew of the *Adventure*, of Newcastle, in September 1789, who dropped off from her rigging, one by one, as she lay stranded on the Herd-sand, near the entrance of the harbour, “in the midst of tremendous breakers, in the presence of thousands of spectators, not one of whom could be prevailed upon, by any reward, to venture out to her assistance, in any boat or coble of the common construction. On this the gentlemen of South Shields (*subscribers to the News-Room at the Law-House*) called a meeting of the inhabitants, at which a committee was appointed, and premiums were offered for plans of a Boat, which should be the best calculated to brave the dangers of the sea, particularly of broken water. Many proposals were presented; but the preference was unanimously given to Mr. Greathead’s, who was immediately directed to build a Boat at the expence of the committee.”† The utility of the new vessel was first experienced on the thirtieth day of January, in the year 1790, when it put to sea, for the

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“glorious

* This appellation appears to have originated with the common people of Shields, who, witnessing the unparalleled success of the Boat in the preservation of *life*, gave that name in memorial of its pre-eminent utility.

† See Letter to Rowland Burdon, Esq. from the Rev. William Turner, Secretary to the Literary and Philosophical Society at Newcastle-upon-Tyne, printed in a “Report of the Evidence, &c. respecting the Life-Boat,” a small pamphlet, recently published by Mr. Greathead, by whose permission the following particulars on the ‘Construction of the Life-Boat,’ and ‘Directions for its Management,’ are extracted.

“The length is thirty feet; the breadth ten feet; the depth, from the top of the gunwale to the lower part of the keel in midships, three feet four inches;

from

“glorious purpose of rescuing some unfortunate mariners, who were the sport of the tempest in the offing; a number of cork jackets being provided for the crew, in case their boat disappointed the expectations of the inventor, and failed in its object: but the precaution

from the gunwale to the platform, (*within*,) two feet four inches; from the top of the stems, (both ends being similar,) to the bottom of the keel, five feet nine inches. The keel is a plank of three inches thick, of a proportionate breadth in midships, narrowing gradually toward the ends, to the breadth of the stems at the bottom, and forming a great convexity downward; the stems are segments of a circle, with considerable *rakes*; the bottom section, to the floor-heads, is a curve fore and aft with the sweep of the keel; the floor timber has a small *rise* curving from the keel to the floor-heads; a bilge plank is wrought in on each side next the floor-heads, with a double *rabbit* or groove, of a similar thickness with the keel, and on the outside of this are fixed two bilge-trees, corresponding nearly with the level of the keel; the ends of the bottom section form that fine kind of entrance observable in the lower part of the bow of the fishing boat, called a *cable*, much used in the north; from this part to the top of the stem, it is more elliptical, forming a considerable projection; the sides, from the floor-heads to the top of the gunwale, flaunch off on each side, in proportion to about half the breadth of the floor; the breadth is continued far forward toward the ends, leaving a sufficient length of straight side at the top; the sheer is regular along the straight side, and more elevated toward the ends; the gunwale fixed on the outside is three inches thick; the sides, from the under part of the gunwale along the whole length of the regular sheer, extending twenty-one feet six inches, are cased with *layers* of cork, to the depth of sixteen inches downward; and the thickness of this casing of cork being four inches, it projects at the top a little without the gunwale; the cork on the outside is secured with thin plates, or slips of *copper*, and the Boat is fastened with *copper* nails; the *thwarts* (or seats) are five in number, *double banked*, consequently the Boat may be rowed with ten oars; the *thwarts* are firmly stanchioned; the side oars are short,* with iron tholes, and rope grommets, so that the rower can pull either way. The Boat is steered with an oar at each end; and the steering oar is one third longer than the rowing oar; the platform placed at the bottom within the Boat, is horizontal the length of the midships, and elevated at the ends, for the convenience of the steersman, to give him a greater power with the oar. The internal part of the Boat next the sides, from the under part of the *thwarts* down to the platform, is cased with cork; the whole

* The short oar is more manageable, in a high sea, than the long oar, and its stroke is more certain.

precaution was unnecessary; floating like a feather upon the water, it rode triumphantly over every raging surge, and smiled at the horrors of the storm. The wreck was approached in spite of the elements; and the wretched crew, equally affected with

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astonishment

whole quantity of which, affixed to the Life-Boat, is nearly seven hundred weight: the cork indisputably contributes much to the buoyancy of the Boat when full of water, is a good defence when going alongside a vessel, and is of principal use in keeping the Boat in an erect position in the sea, or rather of giving her a very lively and quick disposition to recover from any sudden *cant* or *lurch* which she may receive from the stroke of a heavy wave: but, exclusive of the cork, the admirable construction of this Boat gives it a decided pre-eminence. The ends being similar, the Boat can be rowed either way, and this peculiarity of form alleviates her in rising over the waves; the curvature of the keel and bottom facilitates her movement in turning, and contributes to the ease of the steerage, as a single stroke of the steering oar has an immediate effect, the Boat moving, as it were, upon a centre; the fine entrance below is of use in dividing the waves, when rowing against them; and, combined with the convexity of the bottom, and the elliptical form of the stem, admits her to rise with wonderful buoyancy in a high sea, and to launch forward with rapidity, without shipping any water, when a common boat would be in danger of being filled. The *flaunching* or spreading form of the Boat, from the floor-heads to the gunwale, gives her a considerable bearing; and the continuation of the breadth well forward, is a great support to her in the sea; and it has been found by experience, that Boats of this construction are the best sea-boats for rowing against the turbulent waves. The internal shallowness of the Boat, from the gunwale down to the platform, the convexity of the form, and the bulk of cork within, leave a very diminished space for the water to occupy; so that the Life-Boat, when filled with water, contains a considerably less quantity than the common boat, and is in no danger either of sinking or overturning. It may be presumed by some, that in cases of high wind, agitated sea, and broken waves, a Boat of such a bulk could not prevail against them by the force of the oars; but the Life-Boat, from her peculiar form, may be rowed *a-head*, when the attempt in other boats would fail.

“These Boats are built of two sizes; one to row with ten oars, the other with eight, for the conveniency of those places where a larger number of hands cannot, on the sudden, be obtained. Each of these Boats require two men besides the rowers, who ought to be acquainted with the sets of the tides where the Boat is likely to be used; these are to station themselves, one at each end of the Boat, equipped with a long sweep, for the purpose of steering; for by the Boat being made fore-and-aft perfectly similar, she rows and steers either

astonishment and extacy, beheld the Life-Boat (never was name more happily imagined, nor more appropriately bestowed) alongside of their shattered vessel, and offering refuge from the tremendous abyss, that was opening to swallow them up for ever. Restored to life and hope, they were removed, and conveyed to land, to the
unspeakable

way with equal ease: he to whom the rowers face, becomes steersman; the other must be very careful to keep *his sweep* out of the water. The rowers row double banked, with their oars slung over an iron thole, provided with a grommet, which enables the rowers, merely by facing about, to row either way without turning the Boat, a circumstance of infinite importance in broken water. In going to a wreck, if more than one point of land from which to send off the Boat can be obtained, it will be found advisable to launch her so that she may head the sea as much as possible: the steersman must keep his eye fixed upon the waves or breakers, and encourage the rowers *to give way* to the Boat, as she rises to them: the Boat, thus aided by the force of the oars, launches over the waves with vast rapidity, without shipping any water. It is necessary here to observe, that there is often a strong reflux of the sea near stranded vessels, which requires both dispatch and care in the persons employed, that the Boat be not damaged by striking the wreck. In returning from the wreck, should the wind blow toward the land, the Boat will come on shore without any other effort than that of steering.

“ These Boats are painted white on the outside; this colour more immediately relieving the eye of the spectator, at their rising from the hollow of the sea, than any other: the bottom is at first varnished for the more minute inspection of purchasers; but it may be painted afterwards, if preferred. The oars which the Boat is provided with, are made of fir of the best quality, as it has been found by experience, that a rove ash oar, that will dress clean and light, is too pliant among the breakers; and if it be made strong and heavy, the rowers are sooner exhausted, as the purchase is necessarily short, from their rowing double banked; this circumstance makes the fir oar, when made stiff, much to be preferred. She is also furnished with pouys, or sets, which are better calculated than boat-hooks to push off from soft sand among the breakers.

“ These Boats have also, when situation renders it necessary, a carriage, or truck, for the purpose of transporting them from their boat-house to the point of land nearest the wreck, or where they will be able to head the sea most directly; the rollers of the trucks are made concave, for the purpose of rolling them over spars, or oars, laid lengthways on the sand, if it should not be sufficiently hard to bear the weight of the Boat.” These instructions are accompanied by a strong recommendation for “ practising the Boat in rough weather, by which means, experience will be gained, and the danger become less, from the well-grounded confidence the people will have in the Boat.”

unspeakable joy of the benevolent proprietors of the plan; who had thus the double gratification of seeing that the vessel was calculated to answer its intention in the completest manner, and of rescuing, at the same time, several fellow-creatures from inevitable destruction."

Since the above period, the Life-Boat has been repeatedly exercised in the humane, and, previously, dangerous office for which it was constructed, and never, in a single instance, failed of success. The number of persons saved at the mouth of the Tyne alone amounts to between two and three hundred; and so confident have the men employed in the management of the Boat, become of its perfect security, "that the cork-jackets which were provided for them to wear as a precaution against any possible accident, have long since ceased to be used." The extraordinary utility of this vessel may, indeed, be easily conceived, from the circumstance of its having been more than once filled with water, and yet performing its office, and conveying the preserved seamen over the raging billows in complete safety.

For some years, the ingenuity and labor of Mr. Greathead were by no means sufficiently remunerated; for, waving the idea of *exclusive profit*, when the preservation of human life was the object, he neglected to secure his invention by patent, and even furnished plans and models, from which the Life-Boat might be constructed by others. The attention of the legislature was at length, however, attracted by the celebrity and usefulness of his scheme, and, on the report of a committee, appointed, in February, 1802, to enquire into the utility and originality of the invention, 1200*l.* was voted him as a reward by the House of Commons. Within the last three or four years, he has also been presented with a *Medallion* from the Royal Humane Society, one hundred guineas from the Corporation of the Trinity House of Deptford Strond; a gold Medallion, and fifty guineas, from the Society of Arts; one hundred guineas from the subscribers at Lloyd's; (who also voted 2000*l.* for encouraging the building of Life-Boats, on different parts of the coast;) and during the last month, an elegant diamond ring from the Emperor of Russia.

On Mr. Greathead's examination before the Committee of the House of Commons, he was desired to explain what had suggested to him the particular construction of the Life-Boat; on which he stated, that he had conceived the principle of the invention, from the properties of a spheroid, which "if divided into quarters, each quarter is elliptical, and nearly resembles the half of a wooden bowl, having a curvature with projecting ends: this, thrown into the sea, or broken water, cannot be upset, nor lie with the bottom upwards." This illustration is confirmed by the more dilated evidence given by Mr. Thomas Hinderwell, ship owner, of Scarborough, who observed, that "The peculiar nature of the curvature of the keel of the Life-Boat, is the foundation and basis of its excellence: it regulates, in a great measure, the shear with the elevation towards the ends. This construction spreads and repels the water in every direction, and enables the boat to ascend and descend with great facility over the breakers. The ends being reduced regularly from the centre to less than one third proportion of the midships, both ends are lighter than the body section. By means of the curved keel, and the centre of gravity being placed in the centre of the boat, she preserves equilibrium in the midst of the breakers. The internal shallowness of the boat in the body section, occasioned by the convexity of the keel, and the shear at the top, leaves so small a space for the water to occupy, that the boat, though filled with water, is in no danger of sinking, or upsetting. The buoyancy of the boat, when filled with water, is also assisted by the cork being placed above the water line."

One of the most early patrons to the Life-Boat, was the Duke of Northumberland, who, with distinguished liberality, had a boat constructed at his own expence, to be kept at North Shields. This has been the means of saving many valuable lives, as the wrecks, from the situation of the harbour, frequently happen on the Northumberland side.* Nearly thirty other life-boats have since

* An extraordinary instance of the efficacy of the Life-Boat, occurred on this side in November last. The Bee, of Shields, was stranded on the Black Middens, nearly opposite Tinemouth Castle. Here, in the midst of rocks, where

since been built by Mr. Greathead; who has relinquished all other business, purposely to attend to their construction: two of these were built for the Prince Royal of Denmark, one for the Emperor of Russia, and one for the King of Prussia: most of the others are stationed on different points of the English coast.

It has been mentioned, that the Life-Boat originated with the meeting at the Law House; to that meeting also the adventurous mariner is indebted for additional safety in navigating the eastern coast of this kingdom. We allude to the *floating* Light, established a few years ago near the Newarp Sand, on the Norfolk shore, and which was originally projected by Mr. Cuthbert Marshall, a former member of that society, but now deceased: this light has prevented the loss of much property, and many valuable lives. The sea prospect from the Law House, including Tinemouth Light-House, Priory, and Castle, with Clifford's Fort, and the haven crowded with ships at full tide, is one of the grandest in the kingdom.

The population of South Shields, as enumerated under the act of 1801, was 12,304; that of the rest of the chapelry, including the hamlets of Westoe and Harton, and the out-farms, 605; making a total of 12,909. This, however, is supposed to be considerably below the real number, which, at the beginning of the present year, was computed at 15,000. The number of houses in Shields is about 1500. The children of the poorer classes receive education at a *Charity* School, established in 1769, for forty boys, and twelve girls. For the recreation of the more respectable inhabitants, a neat Theatre has been built; and subscription Assembly-rooms are opened during every winter.

JARROW, anciently called *Gyrwy*, or *Girvy*, about half a mile south of the river Tyne, and two miles from South Shields,

-was

where the sea, swelled by a south-easterly wind, ran mountains high, and fell in tremendous breakers, the only refuge of the crew from immediate death, was to climb up into the shrouds, which they instantly effected. Their dreadful situation being perceived from the land, the Life-Boat was hove out, and manned; and in the course of an hour, the men were taken from their perilous stations, and landed in safety at South Shields.

was formerly a place of considerable consequence, though lately only consisting of a few mean cottages, an ancient church, and the ruins of a monastery. The latter was founded about the fifteenth year of Egfrid, King of Northumberland, (A. D. 685,) through the influence of Benedict Biscopius, who had before built the monastery at Monk Wearmouth. In the fifth year after the restoration of King Ethelred, it was burnt by the Danes; and again in the seventh year of King Osbert, it suffered similar devastation. Being a third time restored, probably during the continuance of the seat of the episcopal See at Chester-le-Street, it again became subject to misfortune, and was frequently pillaged, and laid under contribution, during the provincial war which distracted this part of the Island, when the Danish and Saxon Sovereigns were contending for mastery: nor were its woes yet at an end, for on the irruption of the Normans, into the northern parts of the kingdom, it was once more destroyed by fire.

Soon after the appointment of Bishop Walcher, who was presented to the See by William the Conqueror, that prelate invited the monks Aldwin, Elfwy, and Renfrid, who had fixed their abode at Munkchester, (now New-Castle,) and were greatly esteemed for piety, to take up their residence within his diocese; observing, that he thought it preferable for them to be under the government of an Ecclesiastic, than of the Civil power, "Munkchester being, at that period, included in the jurisdiction of the Earl of Northumberland. Aldwin, and his associates, having accepted the invitation, were received by the Bishop with great respect, and had Jarrow given to them for a place of residence. Here, according to William of Malmsbury, they found walls without roofs, and scarcely retaining any vestiges of former splendor:" these, however, they quickly covered with a roof of unhewn timber, thatched with straw, and again commenced the celebration of divine ordinances. Being joined by several brethren from different parts of the kingdom, they formed a design to rebuild the church, and restore the ruined monastery, and several adjacent manors were granted by Walcher, to enable them to fulfil their intentions. Earl Waltheof afterwards enlarged their

possessions, by the gift of Tinemouth Priory, and permitted them to remove the remains of St. Oswin to their own establishment. The increase of the society, after the expulsion of the monks from Wearmouth, occasioned a division of the brethren: Aldwin, with his followers, departed to Melross;* Renfrid, with another party, went to Whitby, in Yorkshire, (whence, after a short residence, but many sufferings, they removed to York, and founded the Abbey of St. Mary;) and Elfwy, with his associates, continued at Jarrow. Bishop William de Carilepho, who had confirmed the grants of his predecessor, Walcher, soon afterwards removed the inmates of this establishment to Durham, and thenceforth it was only a cell to that monastery. On the Dissolution, its revenues were valued, according to Speed, at 40*l.* 7*s.* 8*d.*

The monastery was dedicated to St. Paul, and appropriated to the reception of Benedictines. Its remains, together with the Church, occupy the summit of an elevated ridge, but display little worthy of notice, as might be expected in a building so frequently dilapidated. The windows were small and narrow, and irregularly scattered at different heights; some relics of Saxon sculpture occur on the mouldings of a round arched window. The Church appears, from the situation of the tower, to have been in the form of a cross; but so many parts are destroyed, that this cannot be positively affirmed. The present edifice is formed by part of the ancient buildings, connected with a portion, rebuilt in the year 1783. In the north wall of the old structure, cut on a stone, that passed quite through it, was an inscription, which Camden, and other antiquaries, have noticed, but not accurately. Mr. Hutchinson describes it as follows.

P. DEDICATIO BASILICÆ
SCI PAVLI VIII KL MAI
ANNO XV ECFRIDI REG

.....
CEOLFRIDI ABB EIVSDEM Q
Q. ECCLES DO AVCTORE
CONDITORIS ANNO IIII

“The

* Vide Monk Wearmouth, p. 147, *et seq.*

“The first character has been omitted by all the copyists: we presume it is a compound, meant for an invocation, and signifies *Propitietur Deus*. Below the third line the stone is rough, as if it had suffered an obliteration. The whole inscription is in Roman characters, except one Saxon E, and two square or black letter O's; from which, and the situation of the stone, one readily determines the inscription to be of equal date with the repairs that were made after the Normans destroyed the monastery, and that it was only a modern memorial of the antiquity of the foundation.”* Since the repairing of the Church, the inscription has been replaced in a situation to preserve it from injury.

In the vestry is carefully preserved a large and ancient *Chair* of oak, traditionally said to have been the seat of VENERABLE BEDE, the pre-eminent boast of this monastery. It is very rudely formed, and, with the exception of the back, is undoubtedly of great age; but there is no authentic testimony of its ever having belonged to that learned writer: indeed, it is in the greatest degree improbable, that this, of all the furniture of the monastery, should have escaped the repeated devastations committed here by the Danes and Normans.

The exact place of the nativity of Bede has not been ascertained by historians, though Jarrow is generally considered as having that honor. That he was born in a part of this county, contiguous to the river Wear, is certain; but the precise spot is not known. His birth occurred in 672: when seven years of age, he was received into the monastery at Wearmouth, and under Benedict, and his successor Ceolfrid, his infant mind acquired the rudiments of that knowledge which has rendered his memory immortal; not so much, perhaps, from its comparative value with the more useful erudition of modern times, as from its having been obtained in an age when almost every species of learning was shrouded by the mists of superstition and ignorance. When only nineteen, he was ordained Deacon, and even at that early age, was regarded as exemplary for his piety and studious life. He was now removed to
the

* History of Durham, Vol. II. p. 476.

the new foundation at Jarrow, and his acquirements rapidly increased under the tuition of John of Beverley, then Bishop of Hagulstad, or Hexham; by whom, at the age of thirty, he was ordained a Priest, preparatory to an intended journey to Rome at the request of Pope Sergius, whose admiration had been excited by the reports he had heard of the progress of our illustrious scholar in the various branches of learning. The death of Sergius prevented his going; but that prevention did not excite his regret; retirement, and incessant application, being more congenial to his inclinations. "By remaining in his monastery, and habituating himself to a recluse life, he had sufficient time to make himself master of every branch of literature which at that period was known in this Island; and his acquirements were made without any apparent desire of fame or promotion, but merely to render himself useful to society, and for the promotion of religion and virtue." He died in 735, in the sixty-third year of his age; and being afterwards canonized, was enrolled in the Romish calendar of saints. His character has been thus depicted by William of Malmsbury. "He was a man, that, although born in an extreme corner of the world, yet the light of his learning spread over all parts of the earth. All the hours which he had to spare from the monastic exercises of prayer, and singing in the choirs by day and night, (in which he was constant, and very devout,) he most diligently spent in study, and divided his whole time between that and his devotions." His works are numerous; but his Ecclesiastical History is most known, and most valued: various of his treatises on different parts of scripture are preserved in the Bodleian Library. About one mile west of Jarrow, is a *Well*, still called St. Bede's, to which it was customary, almost as late as the middle of the last century, to convey diseased children, and, after dropping in a crooked pin, to dip them for the recovery of their healths: round the well, also, on every Midsummer eve, was a great resort of the neighbouring people, with bonfires, music, and dancing. Bede was first buried in his own monastery; but his relics were afterwards removed, and interred in Durham Cathedral.

Jarrow

Jarrow may now be considered as advancing to importance, a very extensive *Colliery* having been opened here in September last, by Simon Temple, Esq. who has erected a handsome mansion for his own residence, and a row of low houses, extending in a curve line for upwards of half a mile, on the Newcastle road, for the abode of the pit-men. The celebration of the opening of the colliery was accompanied by a grand fete, to which Mr. Temple invited all the workmen employed in his various concerns, as well as friends, so that more than a thousand persons partook of the entertainment. The fete commenced by a procession headed by Mr. Temple, and three sons; and the early part of the day was passed in the benevolent acts of laying the foundations of three buildings, a *School* for children, a *Seminary* for females, and a *Fever-house*, and Hospital; all for the benefit of the families of those employed by Mr. Temple, and to be supported at his expence. Several coal-waggons were then filled at the pit, and conveyed on ship-board, under the banners of the South Shields Volunteers, and a general discharge of artillery, with appropriate music; the remainder of the day was spent in feasting and rejoicing. The coals are of the best quality, and the annual receipts are expected to be immense.

Jarrow Slake, extending on the north-east towards Shields, and uniting with the Tyne, appears at high water like a capacious bay; but when the tide is down, it is left dry, and admits the passage of carriages round its whole extremity. This we are informed, by ancient authors, was the principal port of Egfrid, King of Northumberland, and where his entire navy lay moored. It has since been washed full of sand, and is not at present of any use; though various schemes have been projected to render the ground of service. Its extent from east to west is nearly a mile; its breadth about half a mile. A small rivulet, called by Leland the *Done*, rising in the Bolden Hills, flows through the midst of it, into the Tyne. The population of the township of Jarrow, Monkton, and Hedworth, as returned under the late act, was 1566: the number of houses 307: both the number of buildings, and of inhabitants, have since, however, greatly increased.

GATESHEAD,

GATESHEAD, the *Gaetsheved* of the Saxons, and supposed, by Camden and Baxter, to be the *Gabrosentum* of the Romans, principally consists of one long street, ranging along a steep descent, and terminated by the Bridge leading over the Tyne to Newcastle. The etymology of its name has occasioned various conjectures; some of these sufficiently fanciful: Mr. Brand, whose opinion seems most correct, derives it from the Saxon *Gaetsheved*, the head, or termination, of a military road, or *way*, which, in these parts, is commonly denominated *gait*. Being immediately on the Roman road leading from Chester-le-Street, there is scarcely a doubt of its having been occupied by the Romans; and the opinion is corroborated by the discovery of an urn full of Roman coins, on widening the main road leading to the Tyne-Bridge a few years ago. Most of the coins were distributed among the workmen, and are lost; yet several of them, in good preservation, of the Emperor Adrian, are now in the hands of David Stephenson, Esq. Newcastle.

This is a borough by prescription, but not privileged to send members to Parliament. The earliest known record relating to it, occurs in the time of Bishop Pudsey, and is dated 1164, when that prelate granted by charter, to his burgesses of Gateshead, the liberty of his forest; and by the same charter, further, “*that each shall have in right of his burgage similar liberties to those enjoyed by the burgesses of Newcastle in right of their burgages*; and that they shall have free passage within the liberties of the palatinate with their goods, clear of all dues and exactions.” Several succeeding prelates had their keepers of the park and castle here. In 1557, Bishop Tunstall granted a charter to the company of Glovers, within the borough of Gateshead; in 1602, Bishop Matthew incorporated sundry trades; and in 1661, Bishop Cosin incorporated them into one commonalty. During the reign of Edward the Sixth, this borough was united to Newcastle; but in the succeeding reign it was re-united to the See of Durham. Previous to the act of the seventh of Edward the Sixth, by which Gateshead was annexed to Newcastle, it appears from Strype’s *Annals*,* that the Mayor and Burgesses of the latter place, had obtained

obtained a right, by purchase, from Thomas Sutton, founder of the Charter-House, in London, for 12,000*l.* to “the manor of Gateshead, with all the manors, coal-pits, and coal-mines, in Gateshead and Wickham, with the common wastes, &c.” These had been alienated by Bishop Barnes to Queen Elizabeth, who gave them to the Earl of Leicester, and by him were sold to Mr. Sutton. In the reign of Queen Mary, when an act was passed for the re-incorporation of the dis-severed lands with the Bishopric, the opposition of the corporation of Newcastle, to the restoration of Gateshead, was taken off, by a grant made to the Mayor and Burgesses, dated March the seventeenth, 1554, by Bishop Tunstall, of a lease of the *Salt Meadows* for “ninety years, and so from ninety till the expiration of 450 years, with a way to be assigned for all persons, and the conveyance of wares and merchandize, and other things, to and from the Salt Meadows, and the high street of Gateshead, at a reserved rent of 2*l.* 4*s.* annually; with a discharge from all tolls for that term, that had formerly been taken by the Bishop, or his lessees: reserved rent, 4*l.* 6*s.* per annum.” The Salt Meadows comprehend about eighty-three acres of very fine land, about half a mile down the river.

On the east side of the main street, about half a mile from the bridge, are the ruins of *St. Edmund's Hospital*, or *Monastery*, supposed to occupy the site of a monastery, which appears, from Bede, to have been established here before the year 653. This was probably destroyed at the time of the murder of Bishop Walcher,* when the populace set fire to the Church. In the year 1247, Bishop Farnham founded the “Hospital of St. Edmund, in Gateshead,” and endowed it for a Master and three Brethren: soon afterwards he united it to the “Chapel or Hospital of the Holy Trinity in Gateshead,” and framed ordinances for its government. Bishop Langley, about 1438, on the petition of the Prioress and nuns of St. Bartholemew, in Newcastle, appropriated its revenues to the support of that house, to whom it belonged at the Dissolution. In the year 1610, James the First refounded it by letters patent, for the reception of three poor men, and ordered that

* See p. 26.

that it should thenceforth bear the name of the "Hospital of King James," &c. The ruins of these monastic buildings are thus described by Mr. Grose. "The entrance is through a low square stone gate, decorated with pilasters, and seemingly of modern construction: The site of the house, with its offices and gardens, occupied about two acres and a half of land. Nearest the road stands the Chapel, whose west end is handsomely ornamented with a number of pointed arches and niches, though the inside seems remarkably plain: it consists of a single aisle, twenty-one paces broad, by twenty-six paces long. Some steps at the east end, leading to the altar, are still remaining. The arches of the windows, except those at the east and west ends, which are entirely pointed, are round within, and pointed on the outside. A remarkable ornament is mounted on the east end on a slender rod, being a small circle, chequered by several bars crossing each other at right angles." In the garden are the ruins of a mansion, which, from its containing a Catholic Chapel, was set on fire by the populace, at the time when the Duke of Cumberland was marching with his army through Gateshead, on his way to combat the forces of the Pretender.

The *Church*, dedicated to St. Mary, is an ancient and spacious building, in the form of a cross: the aisles are separated from the nave by pointed arches, supported on very light and well proportioned octagonal columns, without capitals: It contains a good organ and galleries. The tower having become ruinous, was rebuilt in the year 1740; but the upper part has since been altered. In the church-yard is a singular monument, said to have been erected by *Robert Trollop*, the architect of the Exchange at Newcastle, to cover his own intended place of interment: it is a square, heavy building, the upper part strewed with "many a holy text," in gold letters on a black ground; but partly obliterated.* On the east side of the church-yard, on a spot of ground called the

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Anchorage,

* Most writers that have mentioned this tomb, have recorded a tradition of there having been originally a statue on the north side, in the attitude of pointing towards the Exchange, which is nearly opposite; and having the following lines below the feet.

Here

Anchorage, or *Anchoritage*, is a Free-School, founded in the year 1701, by the Rev. Theophilus Pickering, rector of this parish. The children educated here are taught arithmetic and navigation, and the Greek and Latin languages.

The trade of Gateshead is less extensive than its favourable situation would appear to indicate; and in this respect its contiguity to Newcastle is, perhaps, of disadvantage. It, however, possesses several manufactories, particularly of cast and wrought iron, whiting, &c. The population, as stated in the late returns, was 3974 males, and 4623 females; but these numbers are said to be over-rated: the houses were returned as amounting to 1101. A great improvement was made here a few years ago, by forming a new and wide street from the head of the narrow and steep descent called the Bottle Bank, and carrying it round in a curve line to the Bridge; by which means the former dangerous, and, in winter, almost impassable road for carriages, may be entirely avoided. It is observed by Hutchinson, but on what authority is not mentioned, that Daniel De Foe resided at Gateshead when he composed his celebrated *Adventures of Robinson Crusoe*. The view of the river Tyne, and town of Newcastle, from the brow of the eminence a little to the north of the Hexham road, on the Gateshead side, is uncommonly grand.

Gateshead Fell, a bleak and elevated ridge, extending southward from the village, has been already mentioned as famous for its grindstone quarries. Here, in the year 1068, a victory was obtained by William the Conqueror over the combined forces of Edgar Atheling, heir to the crown of Scotland, with Malcolm, King of Scots, and some Danish Pirates. The Conqueror, after the battle, marched to Newcastle, and almost levelled it with the ground, to prevent it again becoming a place of refuge to his enemies.*

RAVENSWORTH

Here lies Robert Trollop,
Who made yon stones roll up;
When Death took his soul up,
His body fill'd this hole up.

* Brand's Newcastle, Vol. I. p. 402.

RAVENSWORTH CASTLE, a seat of Sir Thomas Henry Liddel, Bart. is about one mile west of the river Team, from which the ground gently rises to a considerable extent. The present mansion occupies part of the site of an ancient castle, which seems to have formed a quadrangle, having a square tower at each angle, connected by a curtain wall: two of the towers are built up in the offices; the others are partly in ruins, and mantled with ivy. The origin of this fortress is uncertain; but, from its name, which, in various old writings, is called *Ravens-helm*, and *Raffens-weath*, Hutchinson, with great probability, imagines it to be Danish. The standard of the Danes was named *Raffen*; hence he conjectures that the term *Raffens-helm*, signified the stronghold of the Danish standard; and *Raffens-weath*, the Danes' woe, from some defeat which that people sustained here; *weath*, in the north country dialect, being expressive of sorrow. In corroboration of this opinion of its antiquity, he observes, that, "it must have been a fortress before any records now extant; as there is no licence to embattle and kernellate this house found in the Bishop's archives, though of every other Castle in the county there is that evidence." The mansion is intended to be rebuilt: the saloon is spacious; but the apartments are generally small. On the north and west it is sheltered by a fine forest of oaks; to the east it commands a pleasant view over Lamesley Vale; and immediately opposite in the distance is Gateshead-fell, wild and shaken, yet covered with a multitude of rude hovels, inhabited by the families of the quarriers and pit-men.

Ravenworth, and some other manors, were granted, by Bishop Flambard, to his nephew Richard, to hold by homage, and the service of half a Knight's fee. It afterwards passed through various families to a branch of the *Lumleys*, which became extinct in Isabell, who married Sir Henry Boynton about the commencement of the reign of Henry the Seventh. Their daughter and heiress married Sir Henry Gascoign, whose descendant, Sir William Gascoign, in the fifth year of James the First, sold it to Thomas Liddell, Esq. ancestor to the present owner.

On the banks of the Derwent, about one mile from its junction with the Tyne, is SWALWELL, a place famous for its iron-works, which were originally established here about the year 1691, by Mr. Ambrose Crawley, who, from the humble condition of a common blacksmith, raised himself to affluence and nobility, by his industry, invention, and vigorous perseverance in promoting the trade and manufactures of his country. All this part of Durham, comprehending Swalwell, Winlaton, Winlaton Mill, High, and Low, Team, &c. may be said to have been colonized by him; for the situation being favorable for the purpose, he removed hither his manufactories from Sunderland, and, by the multitudes of workmen employed was the district peopled. The variety of articles manufactured here is immense; and, speaking in general terms, almost every form of which iron or steel is susceptible, is here produced. Anchors of the largest size, mooring-chains, saws, nails, mattocks, hoes, spades, cast-iron pots, kettles, &c. are among the goods manufactured; and conveyed to the various dock-yards, the East and West Indies, and many other parts of the world. The huge furnaces for the anchors, and the whole Cyclopean arrangement employed in their formation, excite the most lively sensations; and the images, observes a modern author, "conceived by the inimitable Virgil, are here justly represented."

*Alii ventosis follibus auras
Accipiunt, redduntque; alii stridentia tingunt
Æra lacu: Gemit impositis incudibus antrum,
Illi inter sese, multavi brachia tollunt
In numerum; versantque tenaci forcipe massam.*

ÆNEID, B. 8.

The goods manufactured here, are conveyed to the Metropolis in vessels belonging to the Company that now carries on the business, the *Crawleys* having become extinct in the year 1782. The iron imported is said to be duty free; Mr. Ambrose Crawley having had the address to obtain an exemption from toll, with other privileges for his factory, of the Corporation of Newcastle, on the payment of 6l. 13s. 4d. annually. His name is remembered

with veneration and respect; the regulations which he framed for the government of the workmen, and the establishments which he formed for their benefit, having been attended with the most salutary effects. The code of laws which he drew up, with certain amendments and additions, that have since been deemed expedient, have, to a certain extent, superseded the general law of the land, and become locally established. "To put those laws in execution, a court of arbitrators (chosen from the superior classes of those employed) was constituted at Winlaton, to be holden every ten weeks, for hearing and determining cases among the workmen, to which all have an appeal: the fees are fixed beyond innovation, at a moderate rate. This institution has the most happy and extensive use: it quiets the differences of the people, settles their claims to justice in an easy and expeditious manner, preserves them from the expences and distress of common law, and the noisome miseries of a prison. As a further protection to civilization, schools are established at Winlaton, Winlaton Mill, and Swalwell, for the sole benefit of the workmens' children, where they are instructed in reading, writing, and accounts. The poor and distressed were also the objects of the founder's solicitude; and he appointed a surgeon for the relief of all the persons employed, by whose timely assistance many lives and limbs have been preserved to the public. When a workman is ill, he has money advanced by the agent; when superannuated, or disabled, he has a weekly maintenance; and when he dies, his family is provided for."* Each of the workmen is allowed a convenient house, with plenty of coal, and a small piece of ground for a garden. Some new steel-works have lately been established here.

WINLATON is situated on a high ridge of land, inclining to the Derwent and Tyne rivers. Before the introduction of the iron-works, it only consisted of a few deserted cottages, but now contains upwards of 580 houses, and 3021 inhabitants; most of whom are employed in the manufacture of nails, &c. WINLATON MILL was originally built for grinding corn; but having been ap-

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propriated

* Hutchinson's Durham, Vol. II. p. 443.

propriated to the use of the iron-works in 1691, has since given rise to a pleasant village of the same name. The chief branches carried on here, are the making and grinding edge-tools, manufacturing files, and slitting bars of iron into long, narrow pieces, proper for making nails.

Between Swalwell and Winlaton Mill, is AXWELL PARK, the principal seat of Sir Thomas Clavering, Bart. whose ancestor, Serlo de Burgh, came into England with the Conqueror: the surname of Clavering was given to the family by Edward the First. The mansion is an elegant modern building, erected by Payne: it occupies a pleasant and elevated site, and is surrounded by grounds beautifully diversified by irregular swells, judiciously embellished with plantations of forest trees. The east front commands a rich prospect of the Tyne, and the busy towns of Newcastle and Gateshead: the view from the south front of the woodlands of Gibside, and the adjacent country, is also beautiful. The Claverings were first seated here in the reign of Queen Elizabeth.

RYTON is a flourishing village, finely situated in the vale near the banks of the Tyne, and containing many handsome buildings, inhabited by opulent families. The Church is spacious, and consists of a nave, side aisles, and chancel, with a square tower, terminated by an octangular spire, rising to the height of 103 feet, and forming a good object from the river, and many parts of the vale. Near the north wall of the church-yard is a large Barrow, about twenty feet in perpendicular height, planted with trees. It does not appear to have been opened: but a similar one, near Bradley Hall, in this parish, inspected about twenty years ago, was found to contain a square cavity, formed by stones placed edge-wise, in which a human body had been interred. Ryton was burnt by the Scots in the year 1297, when the English forces were conducted by Warren and Cressingham.

GIBSIDE was the ancient inheritance of the *Merleys*, but is now the principal seat of the Earl of Strathmore, whose ancestor, Sir William Bowes, acquired it by marriage with the heiress of Sir Francis Blackiston, at the conclusion of the seventeenth century. The mansion is situated on the east side of the river Der-

went;

went; and contains numerous family portraits, besides a few excellent paintings of other kinds. The principal is a fine picture of RUBENS' WIFE, whilst pregnant, in a fruit-shop; the expression is extremely fine; but, perhaps, equalled by the lynx-eyed curiosity of an old woman to whom she is addressing herself: the collection of fruit is immense, and finely colored. The grounds are very extensive: the approach to the house is by a serpentine road, nearly a mile in length, winding through a forest of venerable oaks, sometimes extending along the brink of a deep valley, at others, descending on the easy inclination of an eminence. The first view, on leaving the wood, opens upon a *Banqueting-House*, situated on an elevated site at the extremity of a spacious avenue. After passing a piece of water, the prospect becomes more interesting; and a noble hanging wood is seen to the right, covering all the inclining ground from a lofty summit to the very skirts of the vale; in the midst of which, and forming a termination to the grand vista, is an elegant Ionic column, upwards of 120 feet in height, surmounted by a gilt statue, representative of *British Liberty*: on the left a fine terrace is seen, extending above a mile in length, at the end of which is a handsome modern *Chapel*, with a richly embellished portico and dome. Besides these, various beautiful views occur in different parts of the grounds, and particularly from a walk near the back of the house, on the brink of a steep descent, whence the Derwent is seen flowing through a deep vale, enclosed on the north by hanging woods; but on the south, bounded by cultivated lands, rising from the river in irregular swells. The park is about four miles in circumference.

EBCHESTER is a small irregular village, occupying the brow of a steep declivity, overhanging the Tyne. This was the undoubted site of a Roman station; though Camden, who has noticed a monastery reported to have been established here by Ebba, daughter of St. Ethelfrid, King of Northumberland, previous to the year 660, and afterwards destroyed by the Danes, has not mentioned it. Gale supposes it to have been the *Epiacum* of Ptolemy; but Horsley, apparently on better grounds, refers it to the *Vindomara* of Antoninus. The traces of the vallum are yet disco-

verable, but so obscured by buildings, as to render it almost impracticable to ascertain the exact dimensions of the camp, though it appears to have formed a square of about 160 paces. Within the area stands the Church, and several cottages. Many Roman inscriptions, and other remains, have been found here; and particularly an urn, of an uncommon form, nearly a yard high, though not above seven inches wide, and having in the centre a small cup, imagined to have been used either as a lachrimary, or pateræ.* This, as appears from a manuscript note by Dr. Hunter, written on the margin of the *Britannia*, was discovered by a ploughman, in a cavity formed by six upright stones, covered by a seventh, against which the coulter of the plough had struck.

Several of the inscriptions, and other remains, dug up here, have been noticed by Dr. Hunter in the *Philosophical Transactions*. Among them is a figure on a grave-stone near the church door, described as a man in a *Roman dress*: on this, which is represented in the *Britannia Romana*, Mr. Horsley's remarks are as follows. "The image is very obscure; nor do I see how it can be discerned, whether it has been male or female; for there is no inscription, and the features are quite gone: there have been two dolphins, one on each side the figure, which is somewhat peculiar. I doubt not but it has been sepulchral; and that the image was intended to represent the person deceased." On this subject the following quotation may not be impertinent. "When the ancients erected their own tombs in their life-time, they often left the inscriptions, and sometimes their effigies, to be cut by their relations or friends after their decease. So Corius, in his description of a large funeral vault lately discovered near Rome, has given us the draught of a marble coffin, with the bust of the deceased person cut upon the side, but only a round ball for the head, which, doubtless, was designed to have been afterwards finished; and upon another there is a whole human figure, finished, except the head, which is left in the same manner as the former. And in several

* Gibson's *Camden*.

several of the niches made in the side of the monument which contained two urns, the inscription is cut over one only; and that part of the stone which was found over the other is empty, the person being then living for whom that urn was designed."*

Among the inscribed stones, is one erroneously referred, by Bishop Gibson, to Lanchester; though Dr. Hunter's account proves that it was found here: it is stated by Horsley to be sepulchral, having the single word HAVE, for AVE, as in Grute, *Have Melitina suarissima*. "The custom of thus saluting, as it were, the dead, or taking their last farewell of them, is very well known, and it may seem almost needless to produce any instances of it. Thus Æneas bids eternal adieu to Pallas:"†

*Salve æternum mihi, maxime Palla
Æternumque vale.*

ÆNEID. XI. 97.

Thus also a passage in Catullus: *Ave atque vale*. Various other stones found here, were inscribed with centurial marks, and letters referring to cohorts of different legions. Several Roman altars have also been discovered at this station: one of them, erected to the local God *Vitires*, has this inscription:

DEO
VITIRI
MXIM
V S

The letters, observes Horsley, "are meanly cut. On one side of the altar is a boar, and a toad on the other." On the face of another altar, referred, by this writer, to Northumberland, but actually removed from a barn at Ebchester, by order of Dr. Montague, late Dean of Durham, and deposited in the Dean and Chapter's Library, with most of the above remains, was a mutilated inscription, which he reads thus: *Minervæ Julius Gnenius Actarius cohortis quartæ Brittonum Antoniniæ votum solvit libentissime merito*. Actarius was the appellation of an officer who used

* Gov. Monument Liv. Aug. p. 20.

† Britannia Romana, p. 288.

used to provide corn for the troops. Since the time of the above antiquary, several other inscribed stones and altars have been found, and are represented in the History of Durham, Vol. II. p. 433.

Mr. Hutchinson observes, that the Great Roman Road, which led to this station from the southward, is remarkably perfect where the inclosures of common lands had not been made. "It is formed in three distinct parts, with four ditches; a centre road, probably for carriages and cavalry, forty-two feet in width, with a narrow road on each side, for foot passengers, twelve feet wide." Some vestiges of a square watch tower, between one and two miles to the south, have been noticed by Dr. Hunter.

Over a deep and romantic dell, called CAUSEY BURNE, near Tanfield, is a remarkable *Arch*, constructed about the year 1729, to obtain a level for the passage of coal waggons. The span of the arch is 103 feet: it springs from abutments about nine feet high, and being semicircular, the entire elevation is about sixty feet. The level is preserved by embankments of earth, in some places forty feet high. The expence of constructing it, is said to have been 12,000*l*. This was defrayed by the Associates, locally termed the Grand Allies. The name of the architect appears to have been Ralph Wood, a common mason, who is reported to have built a former arch, which fell for want of weight; and that a dread of the second arch experiencing the same fate, induced him to commit suicide.

CHESTER-LE-STREET, a respectable village, pleasantly situated in a valley to the west of the river Wear, and on the Roman Military Way leading to Newcastle, is supposed, by Camden, to be the *Condercum* of the Romans; but, apparently, from insufficient evidence; no inscriptions, nor other data, having been found to warrant the position. By the Saxons it was called *Cun-ceastre*, or *Cuneagester*, and under that name became the episcopal See of Durham; Eardulph, then Bishop, having removed hither from Crake-Minster about the year 883, and built a Church for the reception of St. Cuthbert's body. Egelric, fourth Bishop of Durham, dissatisfied with the humble church of wooden materials

rials which his predecessor had raised, erected a more magnificent fabric. During the progress of the work, much treasure was discovered, which the Bishop transferred to aggrandise the monastery of Peterborough, where he had been a monk. After the See had been removed to Durham, this place, divested of its state and authority, became a mere parochial rectory, till Bishop Beck made the Church collegiate, and established a Dean, with seven Prebendaries, five Chaplains, three Deacons, &c. Thus it continued till the Dissolution, when what was estimated in the reign of Edward the First, at 146l. 13s. 4d. had no higher valuation in the twentieth of Henry the Eighth, than 77l. 12s. 8d.

The present Church is a handsome stone edifice, with a nave, side aisles, and tower: the base of the latter is of a square form; but above the roof of the Church it assumes an octagonal shape, apparently more modern; and is terminated by a very elegant stone spire, one of the finest in the north of England; the entire height is 156 feet. The interior is neat, and well preserved; it contains a singular arrangement of monuments with effigies of the deceased ancestry of the noble family of Lumley. The series is as follows: Liulph, the unhappy minister of Bishop Walcher, who was massacred at Gateshead, during the reign of William the First. Utredus filius Liulphi. William de Lumley. William Lumley, mil. William de Lumley. Roger, temp. Edward the First. Robert de Lumley. Sir Marmaduke de Lumley, temp. Edward the Third. Ralph, first Lord of Lumley, temp. Henry the Fourth. Sir John Lumley, temp. Henry the Fifth. George, Lord Lumley, temp. Edward the Fourth. Sir Thomas Lumley, temp. Henry the Seventh. Richard, Lord Lumley, temp. Henry the Eighth. John, Lord Lumley, temp. Henry the Eighth.*

The *Deanery-House*, now the seat of the ancient family of Hedworth, is very pleasantly situated; it commands a fine view of Lumley Castle, and is surrounded by excellent meadow grounds: the manor of Chester Deanery is copyhold, belonging to the Bishop,

* A very particular description of these figures is inserted in Hutchinson's Durham, Vol. II. p. 392.

shop, and its jurisdiction is very extensive; it has a coroner, and gives name to the ward.

This village,* being on the great post road from London to Edinburgh, and contiguous to numerous coal-works, has become populous. The township, as returned under the late act, contains 1662 inhabitants, and 259 houses; most of the latter are of stone. They are chiefly arranged in one street, nearly a mile in length. On the adjoining moor is a race course.

LUMLEY

* "At Whitehill, or Whitwell, in this neighbourhood, is a blast furnace, which makes iron-metal from iron-stone, dug out of pits in the neighbouring fells. These fells have been very much worked for iron-stone, (supposed by the Danes when they were in possession of the kingdom,) as appears from the great quantity of scoria or cinder which is found upon the fells, and extends many miles westward. The method in those times had been to melt the iron-stone with charcoal in a large smithy hearth, called a bloomery, and then in another hearth to melt it down again, and reduce it to bar-iron for all manner of country uses: and when the wood failed, they removed their hearths to where it was more plenty; so that evidently they must have blown their bloomery bellows either by hand or with horses, or have known the use of air-furnaces, as the most scoria or cinder is found upon the high grounds, where no water could be obtained. About three miles west of Chester, is a place called the Old Furnace, where very lately was to be seen the bottom of a furnace hearth, according to the usual mode of building them now, but of much smaller dimensions. They had blown the bellows with a water-wheel, as appears by the cut of a water-race to convey it to the wheel from an upper part of the bourne. On the opposite side of the bourne is a place called the Alum Well, from the water having a strong aluminous smell and taste. The method of making metal is by putting into a large furnace, about 34 feet in height, and 12 or 13 wide in the broadest part, but contracted at top and bottom, a certain number of baskets of coal or cinders, to a certain number of boxes of iron-stone, calcined for the purpose, and a quantity of lime-stone sufficient to flux it: when a sufficient quantity is melted into the hearth, or bason, at the bottom of the furnace, it is then tapped with an iron bar, and run off into metal pigs, or large vessels prepared in loam, (a composition of sand, clay, &c.) for different uses, such as brewing vessels, soap pans, engine pumps, cylinders, cannon of all sizes; and the iron-stone and coal used here, are allowed by the best judges at his Majesty's Warren at Woolwich, to make the strongest and soundest cannon that are proved there."—From the information of Mr. Smith, agent of these works,—*Hutchinson's Durham, Vol. II. p. 398.*

LUMLEY CASTLE, about a mile to the east of Chester-le-Street, is one of the seats of the Earl of Scarborough. It stands majestically on a fine elevated situation, bounded on the north by Lumley Beck, and rising gradually on the south and west from the river Wear: the east front is near the brow of a very deep, well-wooded valley, through which the Beck winds towards the river. This stately mansion forms a quadrangle, with an area in the centre; at each angle are projecting turrets, or observatories, of an octangular form, which overhang the face of each square of the base, and are machiolated, for the purpose of annoying assailants; they, however, give to the general building a singular appearance. The whole is composed of a yellow free-stone, which gives a bright and beautiful tint at a distance. The chief entrance to the Castle is at the west front, by a noble double flight of steps, and a platform filling the whole space between the towers: the front to the south is modern, and brought almost parallel with the tower, being sixty-five paces in length: the front to the north is obscured by offices; but towards the east, the Castle retains its ancient form, and has a most august appearance: its projecting gateway, commanded by turrets, and machiolated gallery, are bold and stately. Above this gate are six shields, with armorial bearings, deeply carved in stone, with their crests, cotemporary with the building; and which ascertain the date of its alteration by Sir Ralph Lumley, in the reign of Richard the Second; when he obtained licence from the King, in 1329, as well as from Bishop Skirlaw, to repair his Castle of Lumley, and to build a wall with mortar and stone, and to embattle the structure: it appears that the original fabric had been constructed by Sir Robert Lumley, in the reign of Edward the First, and enlarged by his son, Sir Marmaduke. There are three stories of apartments in this front, having mullioned windows, guarded with iron: a narrow space, for a terrace, between the walls and the brink of the precipice, is guarded by a curtain. The uniformity of this front, the arrangement of the arms, and the whole appearance of its masonry, testify this to be a part of the original structure, and a grand model of the taste of the age.

A beautiful

A beautiful prospect is exhibited from the platform, at the entrance into the Hall. At the bottom of the avenue which leads to the house, is a fine bason of water, a salmon lock, and fisherman's cottage; and on the opposite elevated land, the view of the town of Chester, the Deanery House, and Church, compose a pleasing distance; but the more extended landscape comprehends the house of Flatts, Pelton Village, and the great Northern Road; whilst the back scene displays broken and irregular grounds, interspersed with cottages. To the left, cultivation brightens the prospect, and the winding stream of the Wear adds beauty to the picture, which, on one hand, presents the view of the town of Great Lumley, and, on the other, Walridge, with the Hermitage, and several hamlets in the vale. The distant landscape is terminated by Plawsworth, and the plantations above Newton Hall.

The great Hall measures ninety feet in length; it is ornamented with a gallery for minstrelsy; and exhibits a striking feature of ancient times, feudal performances, and old English manners. A Knight in full armour, on horseback, graces this apartment; and the walls are decorated with an arrangement of imaginary portraits in the following order: 1, Liulphus. 2, Uchtred. 3, Gulielmus. 4, Sir William de Lumley. 5, William de Lumley. 6, Sir Robert de Lumley. 7, Sir Marmaduke Lumley. 8, Sir Ralph de Lumley, the first Baron, in his robes. 9, Sir John de Lumley. 10, King Richard the Second sitting in a chair of state, Lord Lumley in his robes kneeling, above the figure R. R. II. An' D'no 1385, A° Reg. 8. 11, Sir Thomas Lumley.* 12, George,

* He received knighthood as a reward for his military prowess, and was employed by government in several momentous negociations: in the 28th, 29th, and 31st, of Henry the Sixth, he was guarantee for the King of England in the Scottish treaties; in the 33d year of the same reign, he was made governor of Scarborough Castle for life; a most distinguished trust; and was entrusted in many other appointments of government. It appears that he was equally a favorite with King Edward the Fourth; for in the first year of that reign he obtained a reversal of his grandfather's attainder; had summons to parliament for the remainder of his life; and was employed in various confidential matters by his Sovereign, particularly in the negociations with King James of Scotland, touching his marriage. *Hutchinson's Durham*, II. 403

George, Lord Lumley. 13, Sir Thomas Lumley, who married Elizabeth, natural daughter of Edward the Fourth. 14, John de Lumley. 15, Richard de Lumley. 16, George Lumley. 17, Elizabeth, daughter of John Lord Darcy of Chiche, and second wife of Sir John Lumley, who was restored in blood the first of Edward, and had the ancient barony restored. Her father, George Lord Lumley, had been attainted in the reign of Henry the Eighth, for joining the northern rebels in what they denominated *The Pilgrimage of Grace*.

The *Great Dining-Room*, in the south-west tower, is elegantly stuccoed, and has a vaulted roof. The view from the windows, commanding the adjacent meadows, the banks of the Wear, the canal formed by the curvature of the stream, and from another part of the room, the avenue prospect, with Chester and other objects, are delightful.

In the *Little Dining-Room* are several fine portraits, particularly SIR JOHN LORD LUMLEY, 1563, a three-quarter piece. Two other portraits of this nobleman are in the *Music-Room*; one dated 1588, the other 1591. Sir John Lord Lumley was in high estimation at Court, with small alloy, during the contrarily-disposed reigns of Edward the Sixth, Mary the First, and Elizabeth. By Edward, he was restored in blood, as above related. In 1553 he was created a Knight of the Bath, and, with his lady, attended Mary at her coronation; he was one of the noblemen who introduced the first Russian Ambassadors to Court; and was in employ during the early part of the reign of Queen Elizabeth; but being suspected of some intrigue concerning the Queen of Scots, he, and his father-in-law, the Earl of Arundel, with whom he was a great favorite, were arrested. Afterwards regaining the royal favor, he was again admitted into confidence, and was one of the Lords Commissioners on the trial of the unhappy Queen in whose cause he had suffered; and, to the surprize of his hearers, delivered his opinion, *that the sentence was justly pronounced*. He was one also who condemned Robert Devereux, Earl of Essex. But, notwithstanding Lord Lumley's expressions against the unfortunate Mary, her son, King James, bestowed on him many marks of royal
2
condescension

condescension and favor. Camden affirms, "that he had so great a veneration for the memory of his ancestors, that he caused monuments to be erected for them in the collegiate Church of Chester-in-the-Street, in order, as they succeeded one another, from Liulphus down to his own time, which he had either picked out of the demolished monasteries, or made new." This Nobleman had collected an extensive library, with the assistance of the celebrated antiquary, Humphrey Lhuyd. The books were afterwards purchased by James the First, and form, according to Granger, a very valuable part of the British Museum.

In this room is also a portrait of JOANNA FITZ-ALAN, first wife of John, Lord Lumley, and daughter of Henry, Earl of Arundel. She is clothed in a black dress, gracefully ornamented with strings of jewels. Her learning was uncommon; she translated the Iphigenia of Euripides into English, and some of the orations of Isocrates into Latin: the MSS. of the latter in her own writing, are preserved in the Royal Library at Westminster. She was interred in the chancel of the church at Cheam, in Surrey.

In the *Music-Room* is a fine full-length of THOMAS RATCLIFF, Earl of Sussex, arrayed in white armour, and gold brocade breeches: in his right hand is a staff, his left is resting upon a sword: near him, on a table, is placed his helmet, with an enormous plume. This Nobleman seems to have been a favorite both with Mary and Elizabeth; and was, in both reigns, Lord-Deputy of Ireland. By Mary he was also appointed President of the North; and in that capacity, he suppressed the rebellion of the Earls of Northumberland and Westmoreland. In the reign of Elizabeth, he was the spirited rival of Leicester, but his death determined the contention.

ROBERT, EARL OF SALISBURY, Minister in the last years of Elizabeth, and first of James the First. He is dressed in black, with the George suspended from his neck by a green ribband. Above his head is the motto, *Sero sed serio*; and on a table, a letter directed to him by all his titles.

In the *Drawing-Room* is a fine three-quarter length, on wood, of ANDREW DORIA; with the inscription *Pater patriæ*. He is portrayed

portrayed in black, with a cap on his head, a long beard, and round his neck, a collar of the Order of the Fleece, pendant; a truncheon in his hand, and a dagger in his girdle. Doria was of an ancient Genoese family, "and appears literally to have been *a warrior by profession*, having been equally engaged for and against Francis the First, and Charles the Fifth, to both of whom he successively proved of service and injury. He nobly refused the sovereignty of his own country, and preferred to have his name recorded as its deliverer, by repressing the conspiracy of Lewis de Fiesco. He died at Genoa 1560, *æt.* 94."

SIR ANTHONY BROWNE, Master of Horse to Henry the Third, and one of the executors to his will. This is a very curious half length. He is portrayed with a bushy beard, a bonnet, and the insignia of the Order of the Garter.

SIR GEORGE SAVILLE, affianced to the Lumleys by the marriage of his sister Barbara with Richard late Lord Scarborough, whose second son inherits the Saville estates, and bears the family name.

LADY SYDNEY; Holbein. This lady was daughter to Secretary Walsingham, and wife to Robert, Earl of Essex.

HENRY HOWARD, Earl of Surry, half length. This accomplished nobleman was among the numerous victims who fell by the tyranny of Henry the Eighth. The suspicion of the Monarch was excited by his having quartered the arms of Edward the Confessor with his own; and the crime imputed to his charge from that simple act, was aspiring to the throne: for this he was condemned, and beheaded, in the year 1546.

ROBERT DUDLEY, Earl of Leicester; three-quarter length, dated 1587. He is arrayed in a very splendid dress, ornamented with a profusion of point-lace, according to the fashion of the times: round his neck is the collar of the Order of the Garter.

HENRY FITZ-ALAN, the last Earl of Arundel of that name. This nobleman greatly distinguished himself by his valor in the reign of Henry the Eighth, when he ran with his squadron close under the walls of Boulogne, and quickly occasioned its surrender. Attached to the Princess Mary by the ties of religion, he was

particularly instrumental in fixing her upon the throne, and was afterwards appointed Steward of the Household; an office which he retained under Elizabeth; but finding that Leicester had supplanted him in the Queen's favor, he retired to France. On his return from that country, he introduced the use of coaches into England. He died in the year 1579.

Various other portraits are scattered through different apartments; but the "curious old picture of Chaucer," mentioned by Dr. Stukeley, in his *Iter Boreale*, as being preserved in this Castle, is not now to be found.*

Between one and two miles north-eastward from Lumley Castle, in an elevated situation on the north bank of the Wear, stands LAMBTON HALL, formerly called Harraton Hall, the residence of Lady Anne Lambton, who occupies it in right of her eldest son, a minor. This estate was anciently the seat of the *D'Arcys*, who conveyed it to the *Hedworths*, the last male line of which family died in the year 1688, leaving two daughters co-heiresses; one of whom married Ralph Lambton, Esq. a younger branch of the Lambtons, of Lambton Hall, on the opposite side of the Wear: the other married Sir William Williamson, Bart. of Monk-Wearmouth: but her moiety was purchased by William Lambton, Esq. in 1714; and the whole estate has from that period remained in the family. The late William Henry Lambton, who died of a consumption at Pisa, in Italy, in the year 1796, was one of the most estimable of human beings; and though snatched from the world at the early age of thirty-two, had displayed so many illustrious qualities, that his memory will be cherished as long as virtue continues to be respected. The Hall is a modern building, erected by Bononi, but displays considerable incongruities both in its design and execution. The Library is a well

* The following anecdote is related by Mr. Pennant. "When James the First, in one of his progresses, was entertained in this Castle, William James, Bishop of Durham, a relation of the house, in order to give his Majesty an idea of the importance of the family, wearied him with a long detail of their ancestry, to a period even beyond belief:—"O, mon," said the King, gang na farther; let me digest the knowledge I ha gained; for, by my saul, I did na ken Adam's name was Lumley."

well proportioned, quadrangular apartment, with a neat gallery going round it: besides a good selection of authors, it is furnished with a few family paintings, and among them a fine full length portrait of the late General JOHN LAMBTON, by Sir Joshua Reynolds. The grounds are pleasant; and the ride through a hanging wood on the southern bank of the Wear, extremely beautiful. A tradition exists, that an enormous worm, or serpent, which infested the river near this spot, was destroyed by one of the Lambtons, by means of a coat of razors; and a mutilated statue, or effigy, is pointed out by the vulgar, to give credence to the tale. A conical eminence in the neighbourhood is also called Worm-Hill, with reference to the same story; but no records of any real event, on which it could have been founded, are to be met with.

About two miles and a half south from Lumley Castle, is COCKEN HALL, the deserted mansion of Carr Ibbetson, Esq. This seat has been much celebrated by travellers, for the variety and picturesque beauty of its scenery, and certainly with great justice; though the neglected state in which the grounds are now kept, and the felling of the woods of late years, considerably detract from its former charms. The eminence on which the Hall is built, is bounded on the east by deep dells, and on the other three sides by the river Wear, which flows through a low rocky channel, with different degrees of rapidity. In some places the cliffs rise perpendicularly to the height of one hundred feet; in others the ground slopes gently to the brink of the river. The view of the ruins of Finchale Priory, from the terrace formed at the bottom of the cliff, is very interesting and grand. The southern aspect of the rocks was formerly planted with vines, and other fruit trees.

FINCHALE, a secluded spot on the western side of the Wear, appears to have been a place of some note in the Saxon times; a synod being held here in the year 792, during the prelacy of Higbald, Bishop of Lindisfarne: another synod was held here in 798: and, as appears from Leland, a third, in the year 810. In the beginning of the twelfth century, it became the retreat of Godric, a native of Norfolk, who had thrice been on pilgrimage to Jeru-

salety, and, according to the legend of his history, was directed by a vision to retire hither; which having done, he erected a hermitage and a chapel, and, by his severity of discipline, and uncommon austerities, obtained so much renown, that he was admitted into the calender of saints. Soon after Godric settled here, "Bishop Flambard (about 1128) granted to the monastery of Durham, in free alms, the hermitage of Finchale, with its waters, fishings, rights, and privileges, subject to Godric's life, who should hold of them; and after his death, that it might be the habitation of such of their brethren as they should appoint." The hermit's decease occurred in 1170, about sixty-six years from the day he had fixed his residence in this retreat: ten years afterwards (A. D. 1180) Bishop Pudsey granted a foundation charter for a cell at Finchale; but it does not appear to have been carried into effect till 1196, when Henry, the Bishop's son, founded a Priory here for Benedictines, subordinate to the monastery at Durham. Its possessions were augmented by various benefactions; and at the period of the Dissolution, were, according to Speed, valued at 146*l.* 19*s.* 2*d.* per annum. It then consisted of a Prior and eight Monks. Soon afterwards it was granted to the See of Durham; and has been appropriated to the support of one of the Prebends.

The ruins of FINCHALE PRIORY are beautifully situated in a low vale, bordering the river, which flows in a circular direction beneath the cliffs of Cocken. They cover an extensive plot of ground; but are so much dilapidated, that the original appropriation of their respective parts can only be traced with difficulty. The Church was in the form of a cross, but small, and apparently without aisles. The nave, and part of the choir, seem to have been originally open at the sides, as the spaces between the pillars, which supported the arches whereon the roof was sustained, are filled up with masonry of a different kind of stone, and in an inferior style of architecture to the remainder of the building: the arches of the windows that have been made in the parts filled up, are also of another shape. At the intersection of the nave and transept, are four massive columns with octagonal capitals, which form

form a quadrangle of twenty-one feet. These appear to have supported a low tower and spire* on pointed arches, one of which was perfect till within these few years, but is now fallen. In one of the columns are the remains of a stone staircase, that led to the super-structure. The cloisters, refectory, and Prior's lodging, seem to have ranged on the south of the nave: the former surrounded an area about twenty-four yards square. The refectory was a handsome apartment, nearly twelve yards in length, and eight in breadth. Beneath it was a spacious vault, now partly filled with rubbish, supported in the centre by four plain octagonal pillars, from which the groins rise, and extend to the pilasters in the side walls. The ribs are of hewn stone; and the workmanship of the whole vault extremely good. Many parts of the ruins are covered with ivy, and, in conjunction with the rocky banks of the Wear, partially fringed with wood, compose some interesting landscapes. The hermit Godric, and Henry de Pudsey, the founder, are reported to have been buried within the church. Near the Priory is a Farm-House, the appendages to which occupy various portions of the ruins.

NEWTON HALL, a seat of Sir Thomas Liddel, Bart. but now inhabited by the Rev. John Fawcett, M. A. stands on a lofty site, between one and two miles south of Finchale. The Mansion is a plain modern edifice, sheltered by plantations, and commanding a very fine prospect of the City and Cathedral of Durham, besides other interesting views to the south and east.

About two miles north-west from Durham, on a pleasant eminence, rising above the river Brune, or Browney, at BEAR PARK, formerly called *Beaurepaire*, are the ruins of an ancient mansion, or pleasure-house, which belonged to the Priors of Durham Monastery. Beaurepaire was originally part of the possessions of the See, but was obtained in exchange, about the year 1250, by Prior Bertram, who erected a small house and chapel here. Hugh de Darlington improved the buildings, and inclosed the park; these were pillaged and destroyed by the Scots in the

* See View of Finchale Priory in Stevens's Monasticon.

reign of Edward the Second, and again in the year 1346, previous to the battle of Neville's Cross. At that period Beaurepaire was held by Prior Fossour, who is supposed to have rebuilt the house and chapel. After the Dissolution, the manor was appropriated to the support of the Dean and Chapter, and now forms part of the Dean's estate. The ruins of the Chapel are the most perfect, and display some neat ornamental architecture: some remains of the refectory and dormitory are also standing.

Beaurepaire was rendered memorable from the circumstance of David, King of Scots, encamping here with his army before the celebrated battle of RED HILLS, or NEVILLE'S CROSS,* as it was afterwards termed, from an elegant Stone Cross erected to record the victory by Lord Ralph Neville. The battle, which was fought on the seventeenth of October, 1346, and lasted only three hours, was uncommonly destructive: the English archers, who were in front, were at first thrown into confusion, and driven back; but being reinforced by a body of horse, repulsed their opponents,

* In the Chronique of William de Packington, is the following narrative of particulars concerning this memorable engagement. "About this tyme, by the meane of Philip Valoys, King of France, David, King of Scottes, enterid yn to the north marches, spoiling and burning, and toke by force the Pyle of Lydelle, and causid the noble Knight Walter Selby, Captayne of it, to be slayne afore his owne face, not suffering him so much as to be confessed. And after he cam to the coste of Dyrham, and lay there, at a place caullid Beaurepaire, a manor of the Prior of Duresme, set in a park; and thither resorted many of the cuntry aboute, compounding with him to spare their groundes and manurs. Then William Souch, Archbishop of York, the Counte of Anegos, Mounseir John de Montbraye, Mounseir Henry de Percy, Mounseir Rafe de Neville, Mounseir Rafe de Hastings, Mounseir Thomas de Rokeby, then Sheriff of Yorkshire, and other Knights and good men of the north, marched toward the Scottes, and first lay yn Akeland Park, and in the morning encounterid with Syr Wylliam Duglas, killing of his band 200 menne; and he, with much payne, escapid to Burepaire, to King David, declaring the cuming of the English host. Wher then King David issued, and foughte upon a More nere to Duresme tounne, and there was taken prisoner, and with hym, Syr Wylliam Duglas, the Counte of Menethe, and the Counte of Fyfe, and greate nombre of the communes of Scotland slayn. The King, because he was wondid in the face, he was carid to Werk, and thens brought to London."

ponents, and the engagement soon became general. The Scottish army was entirely defeated, and the King himself made prisoner; though, previous to the fight, he is said to have regarded the English with contempt, as a raw and undisciplined host, by no means competent to resist the power of his more hardy veterans. He, however, fought with great bravery, or rather desperation; for he scorned to ask quarter, and was taken alive with difficulty. “The Scotch King, though he had two spears hanging in his body, his leg desperately wounded, and being disarmed, his sword having been beat out of his hand, disdained captivity, and provoked the English by opprobrious language to kill him. When John Copeland, who was Governor of Roxborough Castle, advised him to yield, he struck him on the face with his gauntlet so fiercely, that he knocked out two of his teeth. Copeland conveyed him out of the field as his prisoner. Upon Copeland’s refusing to deliver up his Royal captive to the Queen, (Philippa,) who stayed at Newcastle during the battle, the King sent for him to Calais, where he excused his refusal so handsomely, that the King sent him back with a reward of 500*l.* a year in lands, where he himself should chuse it, near his own dwelling, and made him a Knight banneret.”*

The ground where the battle was fought is about one mile west from Durham; it is hilly, and in some parts very steep, particularly towards the river. Near it, in a deep vale, is a small mount, or hillock, called the *Maiden’s Bower*, on which “the Holy Corporex Cloth, wherewith St. Cuthbert covered the chalice when he used to say mass,” was displayed on the point of a spear, by the monks of Durham, who, when the victory was obtained, gave notice by signal to their brethren stationed on the great tower of the Cathedral, who immediately proclaimed it to the inhabitants of the city, by singing *Te Deum*. From that period the victory was annually commemorated in a similar manner by the choristers, till the occurrence of the Civil Wars, when the custom was dis-

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continued;

* Rymer’s *Fæd.* tom V. p. 542. For some other particulars of the battle, see *Beauties*, &c. Vol. I. p. 228.

continued; but again revived on the Restoration, and observed till within the last fourteen or fifteen years. The Cross erected by Lord Neville stood near the road side, but was defaced and broken down in the year 1589: some steps, and part of the base, still remain.*

BRANCEPETH CASTLE, an irregular but stately pile, was erected by the family of the *Bulmers*; most probably during the early part of the usurpation of Stephen, when, to strengthen his own cause, he gave the Barons permission to build fortresses, and embattle their mansions, at their own choice. Emma, daughter and heiress of Bertram Bulmer, married Robert Nevill, grandson of Gilbert de Nevill, who came into England with the Conqueror; by whom she had two children, a son and daughter. Henry, the son, assisted the confederate Barons against King John, to whom,

in

* "On the west side of the city of Durham, where two roads pass each other, a most famous and elegant cross of stone-work was erected to the honor of God, &c. at the sole cost of Ralph Lord Neville, which cross had seven steps about it, every way squared to the socket wherein the stalk of the cross stood, which socket was fastened to a large square stone; the sole, or bottom stone being of a great thickness, viz. a yard and a half every way: this stone was the eighth step. The stalk of the cross was in length three yards and a half up to the boss, having eight sides all of one piece; from the socket it was fixed into the boss above, into which boss the stalk was deeply soldered with lead. In the midst of the stalk, in every second square, was the Nevil's Cross; a saltire in a scutcheon, being Lord Nevil's arms, finely cut; and at every corner of the socket, was a picture of one of the four Evangelists, finely set forth and carved. The boss at the top of the stalk was an octangular stone, finely cut and bordered, and most curiously wrought; and in every square of the nether side thereof was Nevil's Cross, in one square, and the bull's head in the next, so in the same reciprocal order about the boss. On the top of the boss was a stalk of stone, (being a cross a little higher than the rest,) whereon was cut, on both sides of the stalk, the picture of our Saviour Christ, crucified; the picture of the Blessed Virgin on one side, and St. John the Evangelist on the other; both standing on the top of the boss. All which pictures were most artificially wrought together, and finely carved out of one entire stone; some parts thereof, thorough carved work, both on the east and west sides, with a cover of stone likewise over their heads, being all most finely and curiously wrought together out of the same hollow stone, which cover had a covering of lead." *Davis's Rights and Monuments.*

in the seventeenth of his reign, he gave 100 marks to be restored to favor, and, as a pledge of future fidelity, delivered two hostages, and his castle of Brancepeth, into the King's hands, to be held at his pleasure. Henry dying without issue, in the eleventh year of Henry the Third, his sister, Isabel, became his sole inheritrix, and was married to Robert Fitz-Maldred, Lord of Raby, by whom she had a son, called Geoffrey, who, in honor of his mother, assumed the name of Nevill: from this marriage sprang the famous Earls of Westmoreland. On the rebellion of the Nevills, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, the castle and lordship of Brancepeth became forfeited, and were vested in the Crown by a special act; but in the eighth of Charles the First, they were sold, under the authority of Letters Patent, to Lady Middleton, and others. Three years afterwards, they were made over to Ralph Cole, Esq. of Newcastle, in trust for his son, afterwards Sir Nicholas Cole. His son, Sir Ralph Cole, in consideration of the sum of 16,800*l.* and annuities on the lives of himself and wife, conveyed them, in April 1701, to Sir Henry Bellasyse, Knt. whose grand-daughter dying in 1774, devised them to the Earl of Fauconberg. Soon afterwards the Earl sold them to the late John Tempest, Esq. but they have since been purchased by William Russell, Esq. the present resident. The whole estate consists of about 4600 acres, all of freehold tenure.

“The Castle of Branspeth,” observes Leland, “standeth on a rock among hilles higher than it.” This is not strictly accurate: to the south-west, indeed, the walls rise from a rocky precipice, nearly forty feet in height, watered by a small rivulet; but on the east, and part of the north, the ground is nearly level for a considerable distance: on the latter sides, the Castle has been defended by a moat: the hills to the west are lofty. This Castle, continues Leland, “is strongly set and buildid, and hath two courtes of high building: there is a little mote, that hemmeth a great peace of the first court. In this court be three toures of logging, and three small, *ad ornamentum*. The pleasure of the Castle is in the second court; and entering into it by a great toure,

I saw

I saw in scochin in the fronte of it, a lion rampaunt.* Some say that Rafe Nevill, the first Erle of Westmerland, builded much of this house, A. D. 1398. The Erle that now is, hath set a new peace of work to it."† The principal court, or area, is of an octangular form; having the body of the Castle on the south-west side. The entrance to the area is on the north, by a gateway defended by two square towers; from which, to the east and west, a wall and parapet extends, and connects with the Castle. Between the latter and the gateway, on the east side, are two large square towers, communicating with the wall, with projecting angles, having a small turret at the summit of each angle, sustained on corbles, open at the sides, but not in front. "From the gate on the west, the wall is high, the parapet in many parts hanging on corbles: where the wall forms angles, it is furnished with small square turrets, on the area side supported by an arch; and in the floor of each is a square aperture, to receive materials from persons below, whereby the guard should annoy those who assailed the wall." The main pile is very irregular, from subsequent additions made to the original building, which appears to have consisted of four distinct quadrangular towers, having projecting angles serving as buttresses, and provided with similar turrets to those on the wall. Various modern improvements have been made in the interior for domestic purposes; and several of the apartments are spacious, and handsomely fitted up. These improvements have been chiefly made by the present proprietor, who has also erected an ornamental Green House, and made several judicious alterations in the pleasure grounds and park.

Near the Castle, "is the paroch Chirch of Saint Brandon, at Branspeth; in which be dyvers tumbes of the Nevilles."‡ This is an ancient structure, of the conventual form, but apparently of different ages. The inside is neatly decorated; particularly the chancel, which is divided from the nave by a pointed arch, closed with

* Gules, billete, Or, and a lion rampant of the second, are the Bulmers' arms: the crest is a bull passant. *Hutchinson.*

† Itin. Vol. I. p. 62—71.

‡ Ibid, p. 80.

with gates, and stalls, canopied and finished to the roof with tabernacle work. In the midst of the chancel is the monument and burial-place of MARGARET, daughter of Hugh, first Earl of Strafford, and first wife to Ralph, the first Earl of Westmoreland. The tomb displays the effigies both of the Earl and his lady in wood: the former is represented in a helmet and coat of mail, the hands elevated with gauntlets, a collar studded with gems round the neck, and on the breast, a shield with the arms of Nevill. The latter has a high crowned bonnet; and a mantle drawn close over the feet, which rest on two dogs couchant. On the south of the chancel, is a porch, or chapel, wherein several of the Nevills have been interred; and in which two table monuments of that family yet remain, but without inscriptions. "Ther lyeth in that chappelle," says Leland, "a Countes of Westmerland, sister to Bouth, Archbishop of York: also the Lord Neville, father of the Erle that now is. This Lord Neville died, his father the Erle yet lyving; wherapon the Erle tok much thought, and died at Horneby Castelle, in Richmondshir, and ther is buried in the paroch church. The Erle of Westmerland that is now, had an elder brother, and he lyeth in a litle tombe of marble, by the high altar, on the south side; and at the feete of hym be buried four children of the Erle's that now lyveth."* At the end of the north transept is a recumbent effigy, supposed of one of the *Roberts de Nevill*, of a Colossian size, finely cut in stone. The figure appears in a coat of mail, and hood of chain-work; on the left arm a shield, with the arms of Nevill, and a label of five flambeaux: the legs are crossed, and supported on a lion; and beneath the cushion that sustains the head is a group of lions: on the left side is a bear, muzzled. In this transept are likewise two ancient tombs, supposed to belong to the Bulmers.† Ralph Lord Nevill, and Isabel his wife, by licence granted by Bishop Dudley, September the 20th, 1483, founded a chantry here: a second chantry was also founded in this Church, but by whom is unknown.

Between

* Itin. Vol. I. p. 80.

† Hutchinson, Vol. III. p. 317.

Between one and two miles north of Brancepeth is BRANDON HILL, a lofty eminence, so particularly situated as to command a view, in clear weather, of no fewer than eight castles, and a vast range of country. On the summit is a remarkable *Tumulus*, of an oblong form, 120 paces in circumference at the base, and about twenty-four feet in perpendicular height: it does not appear to have ever been opened.

LANCHESTER, a small straggling village, but of much celebrity, from its contiguity to the Roman station *Glannibanta*, is situated on the Smallhop beck, which, at the distance of about half a mile, unites its waters with the river Browney. The parish is very extensive, and was formerly a rectory, having seven chapelries, and a revenue sufficient for the maintenance of a Dean and seven Prebends, who were established here about the year 1283, by Bishop Beck; but the College was dissolved at the suppression of religious houses; and its possessions so dissipated, that a very scanty allowance is now all that belongs to the officiating minister. The statutes for the government of the Dean and Prebends were drawn up by the above Prelate, and confirmed by Edward the First, in the year 1293. The Church is a handsome fabric, with a square tower and battlements. The interior has been lately repaired; and the windows display various fragments of painted glass. In a recess in the wall of the north aisle is a recumbent figure of an ecclesiastic clasping a chalice; supposed, by Hutchinson, to be the effigy of Dean Austell, who died in 1461. An inscription in black letter, on a brass plate that was formerly fixed to a stone in the middle of the chancel, records the memory of Dean Rudd, whose death occurred in September, 1490. The cover of the sacramental cup is a Roman patera, traditionally reported to have been found at the station, but at what period is unknown, unless the date 1571, engraven on it, may be presumed as the real era. The number of houses in this township, according to the late returns, was 137; of inhabitants 635. The common lands of this parish, to the supposed extent of 20,000 acres, have been inclosed under an act of the twelfth of his present Majesty, and great improvements in cultivation have since taken place.

The

The Roman station occupies a fine eminence about half a mile south-west from the village; but the outline of the prospect from it, is bounded by still higher grounds at the respective distances of two, three, and perhaps four miles. This sort of situation, as Mr. Horsley has remarked, is observable at Elsdon, in Northumberland, and several other places; and has the advantage that an enemy could not come over the rising grounds, but they must immediately appear to the garrison.

It is remarkable that this station, which has survived the ravages of cultivation in an extraordinary degree, and is one of the most perfect in the kingdom, is no otherwise mentioned by Camden, than to notice, that he "once thought it *Longovicus*." This opinion of its name was also entertained by Mr. Gale, and Dr. Hunter; but Horsley, on more probable evidence, refers that station to Lancaster, and affirms this to have been *Glannibanta*, as it is called in the Notitia, and which corresponds with the *Glanoventa* of the Itinerary. "I am apt to think," continues this gentleman, "that the first name of this town (village) has been Glanchester; composed, as usual, of the first syllable of the old Roman name, with the word Chester annexed to it: the G, for the sake of an easier pronunciation, might be dropped. If Glanoventa signify a bank or hill near a river, *ven*, or *vent*, in the British tongue, signifying a river, the situation of the station is not unsuitable to this etymology; for it stands on a high ground, with a river (the Browney) on one side, and a rivulet (the Small-hop) on the other, and not far from either."*

Whatever name may be affixed to the station, it has evidently been of considerable importance. The Watling Street passes it within a few yards on the west side; and numerous monuments, altars, coins, and other relics, have at various times been found here; but it does not appear that the store is even yet exhausted, as scarcely a year passes, without some memorable vestige of Roman piety, either to the gods, or to the dead, being turned up by the plough. Previous to the enumeration of these, however, we shall insert a description of the station itself, in the words of Mr. Hutchinson.

* *Britannia Romana*, p. 450.

"This

"This station is of an oblong figure, 174 paces from north to south, and 160 from east to west, within the vallum. It has survived many ages less mutilated than any structure of the kind in the northern counties; but of late many of the stones have been removed, to inclose the adjacent lands, and make the roads. In some parts the wall yet remains perfect; the outside is perpendicular, 12 feet in height, built of ashler work, in regular courses, each stone being about nine inches deep, and twelve long: by some large stones which lie near the foot of the wall, it is evident there was a parapet, with a walk, nearly three feet wide at the top. At the west entrance a stone was dug up, which shews that such fortifications had more ornament than is commonly apprehended. The inside of the vallum is built of ashler work; but, from the ground-work upwards, at the distance of about 20 inches, it diminishes gradually in thickness, in steps running parallel through the whole structure, by which those within might ascend the wall, and instantly line the parapet with troops on the approach of an enemy. The wall thus broken through is eight feet thick at the present surface, diminishing to somewhat more than four at the top; the interior part between the facings is formed of thin stones, placed inclining, feather-wise, tier above tier, run through with mortar mixed with rough gravel. What is remarkable, there appear no *throughs*, as the masons call those stones which bind the buildings by going through from face to face, or into the heart of the wall. There was an entrance in the centre of each side of the square, and to the west a wide ditch: the ground has been cultivated many years on the other sides, as well as within the vallum."* To this may be added, that the site of the Pretorium is still clearly distinguishable, and also a reservoir near the station, into which the stream was conducted by a channel, or aqueduct, that may be traced winding along the rising ground, to the distance of about two miles and a half north-west; where are five small springs, whose waters appear to have been collected into a capacious bason, formed for the purpose, whence they are at first conveyed towards the station by two channels, which are afterwards united.

Many

* History of Durham, Vol. II. p. 367.

Many remains of buildings have been discovered in and around this station; and among them the floors of what is supposed to have been a *Balneum*. These were formed with square stones, supported on pillars, about two feet five inches high, and more than a yard distant from each other. Upon the square stones was a plastering, about four inches thick, of lime and small pieces of brick: here the marks of fire and smoke were very visible. Below the first floor was another, on which the upper pillars rested; the intervals between the lower pillars being filled up with earth and rubbish. Above the former was an apartment, four yards square, at the east end of which was an altar, inscribed as follows:

FORTUNÆ
A/G. SACR
P. ÆL ATTI
CVS PRÆF
V. S. L. M.

Fortunæ Angusti Sacrum Publius Ælius Atticus Præfectus votum solvit libens merito. "The word *Præfectus*," observes Horsley, "without any thing following, is not uncommon in inscriptions." The above altar is now in the Dean and Chapter's Library; together with some others found here, and two oblong stones inscribed thus:

IMP. CÆS. M. A/T. GORDIA
NVS. P. F. AVG. BALNEVM. CVM
BASILIICA A OLO INSTRVXIT
PRE GN LVCIANVM. LEG A/G
PR. PR CVRANTE M. AVR
QVIRINO PRE. COH I L GOR

~~*~*~*

IMP. CÆSAR. M. ANTONIVS
GORDIANVS. P. F. AVG
PRINCIPIA ET ARMANEN
TARIA CONLAPSA RESTITV
IT PER MERCILIVM. FVSCVM. LEG
AVG. PR. PR. CVRANTE. M. AVR
QVIRINO PR. COH. I. L. GOR.

The

The former Mr. Horsley reads as follows: *Imperator Cæsar Marcus Antonius Gordianus pius felix Augustus Balneum cum Basilica a solo instruxit per Gnesium Lucilianum legatum Augustalem Proprætorum curante Marco Aurelio Quirino præfecto Cohortis primæ Legionis Gordianæ.* The latter thus: *Imperator Cæsar Marcus Antonius Gordianus pius felix Augustus principia et armamentaria conlapsa restituit per Mercilium Fuscum legatum Augustalem Proprætorum curante Marco Aurelio Quirino præfecto Cohortis primæ Legionis Gordianæ.*

These, continues our author, "are two curious and useful inscriptions; and valuable, as they have preserved to us the names of two Proprætors, which otherwise must have been lost; for, as Mr. Gale observes, from *Virius Lupus*, who was Proprætor under Severus in 208, to *Nonnius Phillippus* (whom he believes to have succeeded the latter of those here mentioned) in the year 242, the name of no other *Proprætor*, or *Legate*, is any where else to be met with. It is highly probable that the two here mentioned, immediately succeeded one another, because both inscriptions were erected not only under the same Emperor, but also under the same Commander of the Cohort, *Aurelius Quirinus*, who had the care of both these works. The *Basiliacæ* of the ancients were public buildings, in which causes were heard, and merchants met for business: they were adorned with covered walks, and have been described by Vitruvius, and from him by Palladio. Concerning the latter inscription, it may not be amiss to observe, that the Emperor's name is here at length, *Antonius*, as it is printed also in the *Fasti Consulares*: we have likewise some other instances of it in Montfaucon. Mr. Gale says, that the *Armamentaria* signify the arsenal; and *Principia*, the quarters either of the legionary soldiers, called the *Principes*, or the place where the ensigns were kept: but, from a passage in Tacitus, *In ipsis principis stuprum ausa*,* one would rather conclude the latter to be the General's pavilion." Another stone noticed by Horsley is inscribed as follows:

GENIO

* Hist. Lib. I. Cap. 48. See also Gordon's Itin. Add. p. 14.

GENIO PRÆTOR
CL EPAPHRODITVS
CLAVDIANVS
TRIBVNVS COH
: I L I N G V L P M.

Genio Prætori Claudius Epaphroditus Claudianus Tribunus Cohortis Secundæ Lingonum, Votum Libens Posuit Merito: this stone looks like a pedestal, and seems, by its regular square cavity at top, to have had something fixed upon it; and it is my opinion that this stone has sustained some pillar, or somewhat of that nature, and that the monument has been erected to the honor of *Genius*, the Prætor; *Genius* being a proper name, frequent in Gruter. This compliment is paid by Claudius Epaphroditus Claudianus, the Tribune of the first or second Cohort of the *Lingones*: the second Cohort of these people was in Britain, as appears from other inscriptions; and in Camden (Gibson's edition) a small I is set before the other in this inscription, so as to make it plainly the second: there is, I think, room for it on the stone, but the part where it should be, is broken, or worn.”*

On another stone discovered here, and represented in the *Britannia Romana*, is a *Corona* supported by two winged Victories, with the usual symbols and drapery, and in the common attitude. Within the *Corona* is inscribed in three lines, LEG. XX. V. V. FEC. *Legio Vicissima valens victrix fecit*; and beneath the last line a boar, which Horsley observes, may imply, that this memorial was erected after some victory over the Caledonians, obtained by this Legion.

Among the altars described by the above writer as belonging to this station, is one to the local god *Vitires*, three to the god *Mars*, and three without inscriptions: on one of the latter is a rude sculpture, supposed of the *Deæ Matres*; on the second a toad, with the usual sacrificing instruments; and on the third, two rude pilasters, supporting a pediment. On the opposite sides of another altar, which this gentleman obtained here, but of which the capital was broken off, were the remains of inscriptions in two languages, Greek and Latin, as follows.

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O

* *Britannia Romana*, p. 291.

... CΩI
 . ΦΛΑΟΥ
 .. ITTANO
 ... ΛΙΑΡ
 .. C

...
 .. PIO
 T. FL. TITIANVS
 TRIB
 V. S. L. L. M.

"To have inscriptions both before and behind, is a singular curiosity, of which I remember no parallel instance in Britain; unless the beautiful altar in Cumberland* be taken for such; but to have such inscriptions in two different languages, is yet more remarkable. The Latin inscription seems much the same with the Greek one, excepting the different language and character; I shall therefore speak to the former, as being more easy and perfect: *Æsculapio Titus Flavius Titianus Tribunus Votum Solvit libentissime merito*. That there were some in this part of the Island, who were willing to pay regard to the gods which presided over health and recovery, appears from the sculpture at Risingham, in Northumberland. This is the second instance of the Greek character used in such inscriptions in Britain: the other is the famous altar at Corbridge: no doubt they have been erected by some auxiliaries that came from Greece, or its neighbourhood."†

The last altar mentioned by Horsley, is dedicated to Jupiter, by the Cohort of *Varduli* horse: it has the following mutilated inscription:

. O M
 ... ATI COH.
 VARDVLOR
 CR EQX
 V S LL M.

The true reading of this has given rise to various conjectures among antiquaries, but is most likely as follows: *Jovi Optimo Maximo vexalatio Cohortis Vardulorum Civium Romanorum Equitum*, &c. This will appear more evident from the next inscription, which is on a large altar, found at this station, and now standing against the west wall of Sir Thomas Clavering's mansion at Greencroft, about one mile from Lanchester. NVM.

* See Beauties, Vol. III. p. 202.

† Britannia Romana, p. 294.

NVM. AVG. ET
 GEN. COH. II
 VARDVLORM
 C. R. E 3Xc. SvB A
 TISTO AVEN
 To. LEG. AVG. PRO
 PR. TIRANVS TRIB
 R

This, observes Mr. Gale, in a letter to Dr. Hunter, dated June, 1735, the year in which it was discovered, "is very curious, as it gives us the name of a *Legatus Augustalis*, and Pro-prætor hitherto unknown in Britain, and which ought, as I think, to be read as follows: *Numini Augusti et Genio Cohortis secundæ Vardulorum Civium Romanorum Equitate Milliariæ sub Antistio advento, Legato Augusti proprætore. F. Tiranus Tribunus dat dedicatque rite.* The *Varduli* were a people of Spain, admitted, as the words *civium Romanorum* may denote, to the freedom of the city of Rome for some extraordinary merit, or by some Emperor's favor; perhaps, their countryman Trajan's. This was a privilege frequently conferred upon foreigners, even to whole towns and nations, and was at last communicated, by Antoninus Pius, *omnibus in commune subjectis*; by which it seems as if this altar had been erected before the general grant of that Emperor; for it would have been no great honor for these *Varduli* to value themselves upon, if they had enjoyed it only in common with all the rest of the world." Near the above altar, at Greencroft, are some other relics from this station; and among them a sculpture exactly similar to one on a stone built up in the vestry wall of Lanchester Church, supposed a Genius by Horsley, and which represents a male figure, naked to the waist, sustaining a cornucopia in one hand, and holding an altar in the other.

In ploughing a field on the north-east side of the station, in the year 1794, a plain votive altar, twenty inches in height, now in the possession of Captain Ornsby, of Lanchester, was discovered, having the following inscription neatly cut.

Q 2

DEO

DEO
SILVANO
MARC. DIDIVS
PROVINCIALIS
B. F. COS
V. S. LL. M.

*Deo Silvano Marcus Didius Provincialis Beneficiarius Consul-
tis, Votum Solvit Libentissime Merito.* Besides the above in-
scription, there is, on one side, a faint outline of the *Secespita*, or
Culter. Two other altars found at this station are now in our
possession: one of them, about ten inches and a half high, and
six inches wide, is much ornamented, but has no inscription; the
other, nearly the same size, has been inscribed with three lines,
but the letters are too illegible to be made out. This was disco-
vered on the wall of the station, about a year and a half ago, by
Mr. T. W. Greenwell, of the Ford, whose father is the owner of
the land; and has had several rude sculptures that were found
here built up in his garden wall.* Several Roman coins, one of
them, an Antoninus in good preservation, and other antiques,
found in the area of the station, or the adjacent fields, are in the
possession of the Greenwell family.

GREENCROFT, a deserted seat of Sir Thomas Clavering, oc-
cupies an elevated and commanding situation, whence the view of
Lanchester, and the winding vale, is extremely beautiful. The
grounds are pleasant, and contain some fine woods, and also some
ornamental buildings. The mansion is a spacious but plain struc-
ture, sheltered by plantations.

CROOK-HALL, called *Croke Hugh* in the records of Bishop
Langley, is about one mile and a half north-west from Greencroft,
but in Lanchester parish. This was formerly the estate of the
Hiltons.

* In Hutchinson, Vol. II, p. 368, is a cut, purporting to represent the
two most remarkable of these sculptures: they are, however, extremely dis-
similar. The first, which is the cut of a female figure sustaining a cornucopia,
is evidently a Roman warrior, leaning against the side of his horse. The other
is too far obliterated to be traced, but is wholly unlike the representation.

Hiltons. William de Hilton alienated it to Peter Tilliol, from whom, by various possessors, it became the property of the *Bakers*. MR. THOMAS BAKER, the celebrated Historian of St. John's College, was born here.*

WOODLANDS, between three and four miles north-west from Lanchester, is the very appropriate name bestowed on the seat of Thomas White, Esq. by whose most praise-worthy exertions several hundred acres of a dreary and bleak tract of country have been covered with flourishing woods. The land was purchased of the commissioners appointed under the act already mentioned for inclosing the common lands of this parish, and the improvements were soon afterwards began. The plantations comprehend both forest and fruit trees, and many hundred thousand are now growing on the estate. For this attention to planting, Mr. White has been honored with several silver and gold medals by the Society of Arts. The mansion is a neat structure of his own building: before it is a pleasant lawn, and some small pieces of water lately formed, the terminations of which are so judiciously concealed by woods, as to excite the idea of much greater extent than they really possess. The aqueduct that supplied the station at Lanchester runs through the grounds, and in some part of its course has been again appropriated to the conveyance of water.

BRADLEY HALL, a neglected and dilapidated mansion of the Bowes family, lies in a fine valley, bordering on Houslip Beck. It was embattled by licence from Bishop Langley in the reign of Henry the Sixth, and was fortified with deep moats and a curtain wall. In the front is a projection apparently of the age of James the First, with large windows, and in a more finished style than the other parts of the building. The lower apartments are vaulted.

WOLSINGHAM

Is an irregular town, pleasantly situated in the vale of the Wear, on a point of land formed by the confluence of the Wear
O 3 and

* See Particulars of his Life, Vol. II. p. 74.

and the Weserow. The *Church* stands on a rising ground on the north side, but displays nothing remarkable. Near it are some remains of a considerable building, inclosed with a deep moat, supposed, by some writers, to have been part of a monastery, founded by Henry de Pudsey; but Hutchinson refers them to the ancient manor-house of the Bishops', which is mentioned in Hatfield's Survey. The inhabitants of this parish, according to the late returns, amount to 1834: the houses to 398. The views down the Wear from the hill above Wolsingham, include a very extensive and beautifully diversified tract of country. Between this town and Stanhope, the commencement of the lead district is every where intimated by large parcels of lead lying near the sides of the road, and from the blue unwholesome vapours arising from the smelting mills in Bollihope. On *Bollihope Common*, in the year 1749, was found a Roman altar, with an inscription to this purport. *Silvano invicto sacrum C. Tetius Veturius Micianus præf. Alæ Sebosiene, ob aprum eximiæ formæ captum, quem multi antecessores ejus prædari non potuerunt. Votum solvens lubenter posuit.*

STANHOPE

Is a small town, on the north banks of the Wear, chiefly inhabited by miners. The privilege of a market was originally granted it by Cardinal Langley in the year 1421, and revived by letters patent in the year 1669, through the influence of Dr. Basire, the then rector. The *Church* is a plain and ancient fabric, standing on a rising ground to the north of the town. On the west side is an eminence, called *Castle Hill*; its southern foot is washed by the Wear, from which it rises to the height of 108 perpendicular feet. The summit is of an oblong figure, thirty paces in width, divided by a ditch into two irregular parts; another ditch defends the acclivity to the north and east, where the ascent is easiest. A wall of ashler work, strongly cemented, is supposed to have been carried round the whole summit, from the remains of foundations discovered a few years ago.

In

In a grant of lands made by Bishop Beck, this is denominated the Castle of Stanhope; but no other records concerning it are extant. Tradition reports it as having been a fortress of remote origin, and demolished during an incursion of the Scots. At a short distance from the town, on the west, is a spacious old building, called *Stanhope Hall*, formerly the manor house of the ancient family of Featherstonhaugh, the last of whom was slain at the battle of Hockstet. The living of this extensive parish is worth about 2000*l.* per annum. In the returns under the population act, the inhabitants of Stanhope township are enumerated at 1239; the houses at 196: the inhabitants of Stanhope Forest quarter, at 2143; the houses, at 386: and the inhabitants of Stanhope Park quarter, at 1169; the houses, at 131. Near this town, on the north, is a cavern of considerable length, said to abound with stalactites, and to extend nearly a mile.

STANHOPE PARK, a large tract of elevated land, belonging to the See of Durham, between Stanhope and St. John's Weardale, and the hills on the opposite side of the river, are regarded by historians as the places where the armies of Edward the Third, and of Douglas, the Scotch chieftain, were encamped fifteen days in sight of each other, without coming to a decisive engagement. The English army consisted of about 60,000, chiefly foot soldiers; the Scotch force was wholly composed of cavalry, and, according to their own historians, amounted to 24,000. The Scots at length evacuated their camp in the night, and retreated towards their own country with so much privacy and celerity, that the English could only overtake part of the rear guard, who were made prisoners. Edward is said to have "wept tenderly," when he found they had escaped with such small loss. It was in this park that the Bishop of Durham anciently held his great forest hunts; the tenants being obliged to erect a tabernacle, to furnish the necessaries for him and his suite, to maintain his dogs, &c. and he had here his master of the forest, his bow-bearer, and other subordinate officers. The circumference of the park is upwards of twelve miles: Leland mentions it as being rudely inclosed with stone.

ST. JOHN'S WEARDALE,

THOUGH only a chapelry to Stanhope, has the privilege of a market, which appears to have been established for the benefit of the workmen employed in the neighbouring lead mines. The *Chapel* is a handsome building, and was rebuilt by the late Sir Walter Blacket. The town is seated on the south of the Wear, in a narrow part of the vale. The slopes ascend swiftly from the river; and at about the distance of two miles northward, rise into mountains.

“Near Hare-hope Bourne is a singular piece of antiquity, called THE CASTLES. This is an inclosure of an oblong figure at the foot of a high ridge of hills: the interior space, an inclining plain, is in length, on the south side, 90 paces, and on the north, 83; the width is 70 paces: it is defended on every side by a lofty mound, or vallum, of loose pebbles, with an outward ditch: large oaks and birch trees now grow among the pebbles; and what is remarkable, juniper trees are come to a vast size and strength of stature upon it. The interior space appears to have been ploughed.”*

WITTON CASTLE, formerly an embattled mansion on the south banks of the Wear, was the baronial mansion of the Lords de Eures or Evers, who held it of the See of Durham by military service. From them it has passed through various possessors to the Hopper family. The old Castle was lately burnt down, while undergoing a thorough repair. The present mansion is a handsome and convenient dwelling.

BINCHESTER, the seat and manor of the Wren family, is a place of considerable antiquity, being the undoubted site of the Roman station, called *Vinovium* by Antoninus, and *Binovium* by Ptolemy. Its figure and extent seem nearly similar to those of the station at Lanchester; but the walls having been destroyed, and the area inclosed and cultivated, its exact dimensions and form are very difficult to ascertain. It occupies the brow of an eminence, about one mile north from Bishop Auckland, and rising

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* Hutchinson's Durham, Vol. III. p. 310.

on the west from the river Wear. The area inclines to the east, and commands an extensive prospect, particularly to the north and south. From the washing of the river at the south-west angle, the bank has been partly undermined, and the foundations of the vallum laid open; these consist of very large blocks of stone, placed transversely: some remains of stone aqueducts have also been discovered through the sinking of the soil. The Watling Street either passed through this station, or close by its western side: and Dr. Hunter mentions a military way, leading from it towards Chester-le-Street, and which he pursued to Brancepeth Park, but could trace it no further.

In the seventh volume of the *Archæologia* are some particulars concerning this station, communicated by John Cade, Esq. who expresses his opinion, that it was sacred to Bacchus, and derived its name *Vinovium* from the festivals instituted there in honor of the God. With reference to this idea, and to the particular appropriate representations* discovered here, Mr. Hutchinson observes, that, "it was suitable to the Priapian Dedication in every degree, as few of the Roman stations lie in a more fertile and abundant soil; and probably in its environs, much sheep, cattle, and horses, were bred under the auspices of that Deity."

So numerous have been the antiquities discovered at this station, that Mr. Cade calls it an inexhaustible repository. Among them are Roman coins, altars, fragments of pottery, and rude sculptures. Mr. Wren, the proprietor of the station, "has in his collection some elegant intaglios found there, with a variety of silver and copper coins, both of the Upper and Lower Empire, to the time of Valentinian and Theodosius. Perhaps the Roman pottery at *Vinovium* has been equal, if not superior, to most in Britain. I have seen some fragments of bowls and vases enriched with vine branches; and others entire, which appear to have been used as sacrificing vessels; together with a vast variety of specimens of different compositions, some resembling terra cotta; and others of glass."

* See History of Durham, Vol. III. p. 346, 348.

glass."* Various urns and lachrymatories have also been found here; together with some seals cut on coarse cornelians: on one cornelian was the figure of Bacchus, with a thyrsus. Two of the altars belonging to this station are inscribed to the *Deæ Matres*: on a third, though much defaced, Camden traced the following words:

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 TRIB. COHOR. I
 CARTOV
 MARTI VICTORI
 GENIO LOCI
 ET BONO
 EVENTVI.

Tribunus Cohortis primæ Cartov.—*Marti victori loci et bono Eventui.* On this Horsley observes, "that the Romans made an imaginary god of *Bonus Eventus*, is certain; but I have some jealousy, that, instead of *Cartoviorum*, we should read *Cornoviorum*: the Cohors Cornoviorum is in the Notitia, and was at *Pons Ælii*."

Binchester has been possessed by the Wrens from the time of James the First; about the commencement of whose reign, the mansion-house appears to have been erected. It is a venerable building, with wings: its environs present a variety of beautiful prospects.

BISHOP AUCKLAND,

AN ancient borough by prescription, is delightfully situated on an eminence, bounded on the north by the river Wear, and on the south-east by the river Gaunless, which flows into the Wear a little above the town. The ground on which it stands is nearly 140 feet above the level of the plain below; the descent on each side is partly formed into hanging gardens, and the buildings occupy the brow and remaining portion of the declivity. The manor belongs to the Bishops of Durham, who have a beautiful Palace here. The first Prelate who chose it for a residence was Bishop Beck; and to this, perhaps, is to be ascribed the present importance of the town. In

* Archæologia, Vol. VII.

In the Bolden Buke, it is called *North Acland*, or *Aclat*, and is stated to contain, “twenty-two villains, each of whom held an oxgang of land, rendering two chalders of aver-malt, and one wheit or wehit of stat-malt, and the like of meal or bread corn and oats, eightpence of averpennies, 19d. cornage, one hen and ten eggs; three cords of wood-loads, if brought to Auckland, and two and a half if carried to Durham; they wrought two days in each week from the day of St. Peter ad Vincula to Martinmas, and from thence one day in each week the rest of the year; besides they each prepared four portions of land in autumn, with the whole family, except the housewife, and for each carucate ploughed and harrowed two acres and a half extra work. The whole vill provided a milch cow; the headborough man had an oxgang of land for his service; the smith had the like; the punder had 12 acres, and had the customary thraves, rendering fourscore hens and five hundred eggs. The tolls of *beer* (big or barley) produced 8s. and the mills 24 marks. Seventeen cottagers wrought three days at hay, and had a farthing a day. The borough was farmed out, with the profits of the borough-court, &c. at 26l. 13s. 4d. The fulling-mill produced 46s. 8d. The park 8l. with 50 acres of meadow therein, Cs.”

A Grammar School was established here by James the First, on the petition of Anne Swyfte, who endowed it to the amount of 10l. annually. The endowment was augmented by Bishop Neile, and his benefaction was confirmed by Bishop Morton; who also appropriated the old Chapel (the mother Church being at St. Andrew Auckland) for a School House. Since his time, however, the Chapel has been rebuilt by subscription, and opened for divine service, the School being confined to the apartments on the ground floor. The present Bishop also has improved it considerably at his own expence; and a new tower has been added to the west end, from an elegant design by Mr. Atkinson.

The BISHOP'S PALACE, or CASTLE, stands at the north angle of the town, and, together with the courts and offices, covers about five acres. “It stondeth,” says Leland, “on a litle hill betwixt two rivers. Ther was a very auncient manor-place longing to the

Bishop

Bishop of Duresme at Akeland: Antonius de Beke began first to encastellate it; he made the great haulle: ther be divers pillars of black marble, speckled with white, and the exceeding faire gret chambre, with other three. He made also an exceeding goodly chapelle ther, of ston well squarid, and a college with Dene and Prebends yn it, and a quadrant on the south-west side of the castelle for ministers of the college. Skirlaw, Bishop of Duresme, made the goodly gate-house at entering into the castelle of Akeland. There is a faire park by the castelle, having fallow deer, wild bulls and kine."

Almost all the buildings mentioned in this description have been destroyed; chiefly by Sir Arthur Haselrigge, on whom this place was bestowed by the Parliament, and who, attracted by the beauty of the situation, having determined to make it his principal residence, erected a magnificent house with the materials. On the Restoration, the former Bishop, the munificent Cosins, was recalled to his diocese. "He had a palace," observes Pennant, "ready for his reception; but by an excess of piety declined making use of it, from the consideration, that the stone of the ancient Chapel had been sacrilegiously applied towards the building of this late habitation of fanaticism. He therefore pulled it down, and restoring the materials to their ancient use, built the present elegant Chapel;" beneath the floor of which the pious re-founder lies interred. The other parts of the Castle have been erected at different times, and the whole pile is in consequence of an irregular form. The entrance from the town is through a new Gothic gateway and screen, extending 310 feet, designed by Mr. James Wyatt, and from thence to a Gothic porch and vestibule, which, on the right, conducts to the Chapel. This is eighty-four feet in length, and forty-eight broad: the roof is supported by rows of clustered pillars; it has been lately decorated with a new altarpiece, and a picture of the RESURRECTION, by Sir Joshua Reynolds; being the original design made by him for the new painted window at the east end of Salisbury Cathedral. Here is also a handsome monument by Nollekins, to the memory of BISHOP TREVOR, who is represented sitting with a book. On the left,

the vestibule leads into the Hall, a very elegant apartment, and to the staircase of the Anti-Room, and Great Drawing-Room; the latter is sixty feet long, and thirty broad: its internal finishing, together with part of the Anti-Room, staircase, and vestibule, was lately executed from designs by Mr. Wyatt, at the expence of the present Bishop. In the *Dining-Parlour*, fifty-four feet by twenty-four, are full-length paintings of JACOB and the twelve Patriarchs, by Ribera, more known by the appellation of Spagnoletto. These are finely executed: they were purchased at an auction, and presented to the Palace by Bishop Trevor. Here are likewise four heads of the Evangelists, by Lanfranc; a painting of the Four Fathers of the Latin Church, by Blocemart; and another of the CORNARO family, by Titian. This is a very fine performance: it contains representations of three full-grown persons arrayed in flowing mantles, and of six children, all kneeling, and adoring the cross. In the Breakfast-Room is a good portrait of TYCHO BRAHE, the Danish astronomer.

The park and demesne lands connected with the Castle contain 800 acres: the ground near the mansion has been judiciously laid out in slopes and terraces, so as to command a great variety of prospects. The nearer landscapes are composed of wild and irregular woodlands, bold cliffs and eminences, mingled in a picturesque manner; the more distant views are composed of rich cultivated grounds, animated by the windings of the Wear. The river Gaunless flows at the bottom of the lawn, and is crossed at some distance by a stone bridge, at the building of which, in the year 1757, a Roman urn of greyish clay was discovered, filled with ashes, earth, and human bones.*

From an inquisition *post mortem*, taken in the fourteenth year of Bishop Skirlaw, it appears that Dionesia Pollard died seized of certain lands held here in socage, by the tenure of presenting a faulchion to the Bishop on his first coming hither after attaining that dignity. The ceremony is still continued, and accompanied with the following address. “ My Lord, I, in behalf of myself,

as

* Gyll's Manuscripts.

as well as some other possessors of the Pollard's lands, do humbly present your Lordship with this faulchion at your first coming here, wherewith, as the tradition goeth, he slew of old a venomous serpent, which did much harm to man and beast, and by performing this service we hold our lands."

On the north-west side of Bishop Auckland, is **NEWTON CAP BRIDGE**, a stately fabric, crossing the Wear, erected by Bishop Skirlaw about the year 1390. It rises to a great height above the river, and consists of two arches; one of a circular form, 101 feet in the span; the other a pointed arch, of ninety-one feet span. On the north banks of the river, beyond the bridge, is **NEWTON-CAP**, a seat of the *Bankes* family: the situation is lofty, and the surrounding prospects exceedingly beautiful.

ST. ANDREW AUCKLAND is celebrated from the Church having been made collegiate by Bishop Beck, though there appears to have been some previous foundation here. The edifice stands on a rising ground, in a valley near the banks of the Gaun-
less: it is built in the form of a cross, with a tower at the west end. Within is a curious figure, in wood, said to be an effigy of one of the *Pollard* family: it represents a cross-legged Knight, in a coat of mail; the hands are elevated, and the feet rest on a lion. At the period of the Dissolution, here was a Dean and eleven Prebends, whose possessions were valued at 179l. 13s. 10d. Most of the estates were granted away, in the first of Edward the Sixth; so that the living is now only a donative, or curacy, with a small income.

WALWORTH HALL, or **HIGH WALWORTH**, about half a mile east of Denton, was anciently a seat of the *Nevills*, from whom it passed, by the marriage of a daughter of Ralph Lord Neville, to Sir Gilbert Hausand, Knight, in whose family it continued several generations; but was at length sold to the *Jennisons*. Thomas Jennison, Esq. who was Auditor-General to Queen Elizabeth, made great improvements here, and erected a manor-house in the ornamental style of that age; the south front, flanked by circular turrets, and the windows, decorated with painted glass, displaying the arms of the then Knights of the Garter. The

widow of Ralph Jennison, who was master of the stag-hounds to George the Second, sold the estate, about the year 1759, for 16,000*l.* to Matthew Stephenson, Esq. of Newcastle, who, some time afterwards, again sold it to John Harrison, Esq.

PIERSBRIDGE, or PRIESTBRIDGE, a small village on the banks of the Tees, and near the entrance of the Watling Street from Yorkshire, occupies some portion of the site of a considerable Roman station, which Horsley conjectures to have been the *Magæ* of the Notitia. The north and west sides of the vallum, and part of the south side, are very conspicuous. The Roman road passes it a few yards to the east; and the foundations of an ancient bridge, which crossed the river in the same direction, were visible till the great flood in the year 1771, when they were entirely washed away. The present bridge, a stone fabric, is between two and three hundred yards to the west. Many Roman coins have been, and are still, met with at this station, particularly after rain: the foundations of buildings are every where found when the earth is opened; and an aqueduct, which supplied the garrison with water from a rivulet on the north side, was discovered about the beginning of the last century, finely arched, about one yard wide, and a yard and a quarter deep. An onyx, with a figure of Psyche, and a fine silver Otho, now in the Pembroke collection, have also been found here; as well as other antiquities, and among them a Roman altar, with this inscription.

D : M

CONDATI

ATTONIVS

QVINTIANVS

MEN ECCE IMP.

EX IV. S. SOL.L. A.

Dis Manibus Condati Attonius Quintianus Men . . . ex jussu susceptum solvit libenti animo. This, observes Horsley, is a funeral monument, erected to one *Condatus* in the usual tenor of such inscriptions; though Gale and Thoresby have, from this inscription,

inscription, mistakenly supposed Piersbridge to be the *Condate* of the Itinerary.* Near the bridge are some remains of a chapel, founded by Baliol, King of Scotland. During the Civil Wars, a skirmish occurred here between the Royalists, under the Marquis of Newcastle, and a party of the Parliament's forces, in which Colonel Howard, and many of the lower ranks, were killed.

The road between Piersbridge and GAINSFORD includes many beautiful prospects. The latter village is situated in a delightful valley, watered by the Tees; the buildings form a square, inclosing a green. The manor is extensive, and mentioned by ancient writers, as comprehending great part of that side of the county. It was given to the See of Durham by Egfrid, Bishop of Lindisfarne; but afterwards resigned, with other townships, to the Earls of Northumberland, for support against the Danes. In the time of Edward the First, it came into the possession of the *Baliols*, by the marriage of Hugh Baliol with Agnes de Valencia, who, as appears from an inquisition taken under the statute *Quo Warranto*, in the year 1293, had free warren here, and other privileges of a royal franchise. BOLAM, in this parish, gave birth to SIR SAMUEL GARTH, some of whose family have monuments in the Church. This gentleman became Fellow of the College of Physicians, and obtained much celebrity for his conduct during the contention generated by the edict passed in July, 1687, for giving gratuitous advice to the neighbouring poor. On this occasion, he published his celebrated poem of the *Dispensary*, which being well calculated to accord with the state of the public feeling, obtained much applause. His influence in the establishment of Dispensaries, indeed, redounds greatly to his praise, and, together with his active benevolence, and extensive charities, deserved, as it has received, the grateful acknowledgments of posterity. He died in January, 1717-18, and was buried in the Church of Harrow on the Hill, near London. "His death," observes Pope, in a letter written shortly after, "was unaffected enough to have made a saint or a philosopher famous: if ever there was a good Christian, without knowing himself to be so, it was Dr. Garth."

SELLABY

* Britannia Romana, p. 296.

SELLABY HALL is a beautiful villa of free-stone and blue-slate, rebuilt by the late Earl of Darlington, by whom it was purchased of the *Freemans*. The grounds are disposed with great taste and judgment, and afford a singular diversity of pleasing views: the stables are well arranged, lofty, and embattled. The view, on leaving the high road at Grandbank, on the way to Sellaby, is uncommonly rich and extensive. It comprehends nearly the whole Vale of Teesdale, from this point to the cloud-capt blue mountain of Cross-fell, in Cumberland.

WINSTON, a manor which belonged to the late Duke of Bridgewater, was, in the reign of Henry the Fifth, parcel of the estate of the *Scroops* of Masham, of whom Henry, Lord Scrope, was beheaded for treason against that Monarch. The village occupies the ridge of a hill rising from the Tees, over which is a noble stone Bridge of one arch, erected in the year 1764, from a design by the late Sir Thomas Robinson. The span is 111 feet. Here the Tees quits the romantic scenes which had accompanied it from its source, and, instead of hurrying its waters over craggy rocks, and thickly wooded banks, flows into a level country, and assumes a more placid, though scarcely less beautiful, character. The view from the Rectory-House is extremely fine: from this peaceful recess, Dr. Burgess has been lately promoted to fill the Episcopal Seat at St. David's.

STUB HOUSE, the seat of —— Harrison, Esq. is a respectable modern building; the grounds are pleasant, and ornamented with some thriving plantations. Mr. Harrison has in his possession a bird's nest, curiously petrified, from a *petrifying spring* on the north bank of the Tees, opposite Wycliffe.

STAINDROP,

AN ancient town, seated in a beautiful vale, was originally a Royal ville, as appears from Canute granting his mansion-house here to the monastery of Durham, together with many other manors, as an offering at the holy shrine of St. Cuthbert. Bishop Flambard, indignant that the monastery should possess such a rich

gift, seized the possessions into his own hands, but restored them on the approach of death. Soon afterwards Algar, the Prior, granted Staindrop, and Staindropshire, to Dolphin, great grandson of Uchtred, and ancestor to the Nevills, to be holden of him in capite, with a reserved rent of four pounds. In the year 1343, Ralph de Nevill, of Raby, obtained a grant from Prior Fossour, and the convent, to found three chantries in Staindrop Church. Ralph Nevill, Earl of Westmoreland, was empowered by Bishop Hatfield, in 1378, to erect a College for a Master or Warden, eight Chaplains, to be continually resident, four secular Clerks, six Esquires, six decayed Gentlemen, and six other poor persons.* The indiscriminating hand of dissolution completely overturned this excellent establishment: it was bereaved of its possessions, and is destroyed to its foundations. Its revenues were estimated at 1701. 4s. 6d. annual value. Leland describes the College as "set on the north side of the Church, and stronly buildid al of stone." By a charter from Bishop Hatfield, of the same date as the above, John de Nevill, Lord of Raby, was privileged to hold a weekly market at Staindrop: of late years this market has been revived, to the great advantage of the inhabitants.

The Church is an ancient fabric, with an embattled tower at the west end: it consists of a nave, side aisles, and chancel. "In the south aisle, as I heard," says Leland, "was buried the grandfather and grandedam of *Rafe Raby*, and they made a cantuarie there. In the waul of this isle appere the tumbes and images of 3 ladys, wherof one hath a cronet, and a tumbe of a man child, and a flat tumbe variï marmoris. Ther is a flat tumbe also, with a playne image of brasse and a scripture, wher is buried *Richard*

sun

* The licence granted by the Bishop did not restrict the founder, either to numbers, or condition; the expression therein being *nec non certis pauperibus generosis et aliis pauperibus*; and it is most probable, that the Earl intended this house for the reception of his military retainers, or those servants most immediately about his person, (*sex vallectorum*,) who should be reduced by misfortunes, or otherwise disabled; and in that sense, the appellations of *armigerorum* and *vallectorum* will have the most proper application. *Hutchinson's Durham*, III. 259.

sun and heire to *Edward* Lord of *Burgevenny*. *John* by *Rafes* first wife was Lord *Neville*. *Richard* by *Johan* his 2 wife was Erle of *Suresbyri*. *Robert* was Bishop of *Duresme*. *George* was Lord *Latimer*. *Edward* was Lord *Burgevenny*; and, as I remember, *Rafe* had *William* that was Lord *Falconbridge*. *Rafe Neville*, the first Erl of *Westmerland* of that name, is buried yn a right stately tumbre of alabuster yn the quire of *Stanthorp* College, and *Margarete* his first wife on the lift hond of hym: and on the right hond lyith the image of *Johan* his 2 wife; but she is buried at *Lincoln* by her mother *Catarine Swinesford*, Duchess of *Lancaster*."

On the tomb of *RALPH*, Earl of *Westmoreland*, mentioned in this extract, lie the effigies of the Earl and his two wives; but his first wife, *Margaret*, was buried at *Brancepeth*, as has been already mentioned, and not, as *Leland* was informed, in this structure. The Earl is represented in armour, with his head resting on his helmet; his feet on a lion. Here is also a table monument of wood, highly decorated, to the memory of *HENRY*, fifth Earl of *Westmoreland*, and his three wives, two of whom, with himself, are represented by recumbent figures. Round the sides of the tomb, within a kind of colonnade formed by small carved pillars, are ill-executed figures of their children. Some other ancient memorials remain in this fabric; and near the altar is a superb white marble monument for the late *Henry*, Earl of *Darlington*, who is delineated in a reclining attitude; beneath is a fine representation of *Raby Castle*. He died in September 1792. In the Church-yard is a neat free-stone monument to the memory of the late much-lamented Honourable *MRS. RABY VANE*, of this town, whose benignant disposition, and extensive charities, procured her the general blessings of the poor. The population of *Staindrop* township, as returned under the late act, was 1156; the number of houses 183. Many of the latter are well built, and chiefly disposed in one wide street, extending about half a mile east and west.

RABY CASTLE, the magnificent seat of *William Harry Vane*, Earl of *Darlington*, and Lord Lieutenant of this county, is situa-

ted about one mile north from Staindrop, on the east side of an extensive park. This noble pile is indebted for its splendor to John de Nevill, Earl of Westmoreland, who, in the year 1379, obtained a licence* to "make a castle of his manor of Raby, and to embattle and crenellate its towers, &c." One part of the building, however, appears to be of more ancient date; and several alterations, though not particularly connected with its external form, have been made by different possessors. The general effect of the Castle is uncommonly imposing; and its extent, grandeur, and preservation, are powerfully calculated to impress the mind with a vivid idea of the magnificence of the feudal ages.

The situation of Raby Castle is extremely fine; though not lofty: it occupies a rising ground, with a rocky foundation, and is surrounded with an embrasured wall and parapet, inclosing about two acres of land. "Raby," says Leland, "is the largest castel of logginges in all the north country, and is of a strong building, but not set other on hill, or very strong ground. As I enterid by a causey into it, ther was a litle stagne on the right honde; and in the first area were but two towres on a ech ende as entres, and no other buildid: in the 2 area, as in entring, was a great

* A duplicate of this licence, in the French language, is preserved among the archives of the See of Durham: the following is a translation.

"Thomas, by the Grace of God, Bishop of Durham, to all those who shall see or hear these our present letters: Know ye that we, of our dear and especial favor, and for the great love we bear to our dear and faithful John de Nevill, Knight, Lord of Raby, who hath long been of our council, and in our service, have granted, and as much as in us is, do license him fully, according to his will, to make a Castle of his Manor of Raby, which is within our Royal Lordship, and in our Bishoprick of Durham, and all the towers, houses, and walls thereof, to embattle, and crenellate, without restraint, hindrance, or molestation;—or other our subjects, or living within our Royal Lordship, to have and to hold to him and his heirs for ever, provided it shall not be prejudicial or injurious to us, our Church at Durham, nor to our successors in time to come. In witness whereof, we have caused these our letters patent to be made. Given at Durham by the hands of William de Elmden, our Chancellor, on the tenth day of May, and in the thirty-third year of our Consecration.

"By Writ of Privy Seal."

great gate of iren, with a towr, and 2 or 3 mo on the right hond. Then were al the chief towres of the 3 courts, as in the hart of the castel. The haul, and all the houses of offices, be large and stately; and in the haul I saw an incredible great beame of an hart. Ther is a tower in the castel, having the mark of 2 capitale B's from Bertram Bulmer: Ther is another tower bearing the name of Jane, bastard sister to Henry III, and wife to Rafe Neville, the first Erl of Westmerland. Ther long 3 parkes to Raby, whereof 2 be plenished with dere: the middle park hath a lodge in it."

The outward area of the Castle has but one entrance: this is on the north side, by a gateway defended by two square towers, and flanked by a parapet with turrets. The inner area has two entrances; one modern, opened by the late Earl; the other ancient and grand, being the principal entrance to the Castle. This is from the west, by a double gate, and covered way, strengthened by a square tower on each side, which are connected by a hanging gallery extending above the gate: here are three shields of arms of the Nevills, quartered. The covered way is nearly fourteen yards in length, with a groined roof, and circular arches: each gate has a portcullis. This entrance is flanked with square towers at irregular distances; between the most northern of which, is a communication by a gallery with Clifford's Tower, a large square bulwark opposite the outward gate. From Clifford's Tower, eastward, is a hanging gallery, which communicates with a smaller square tower, strengthened with turrets: from this extends a curtain wall, which conceals a recess, and adjoins to the new entrance formed between two small square towers, and leading to the hall. Hence a modern curtain wall connects this part of the Castle with a lofty tower, apparently of more ancient origin than any other part of the building. "Its figure is that of an ancient arrow-head, with the sharp edge or point to the south: it has four tiers of apartments, or floors, and the southernmost angles are furnished with turrets. The masonry is excellent; the front is chiseled, the joints are compact, and the interior parts of the wall are run with hot lime. From the top is a most exten-

sive prospect; and near the summit, raised in the stone-work, are the two *W*'s (mentioned by Leland) in the old character, from which, and the name the tower now bears, it has been inferred, that it was built by Bertram Bulmer." Mr. Hutchinson, however, from whose description this extract is made, conjectures it to be of yet greater antiquity, even of the age of Canute, and to have formed part of the mansion given by him to the Church, with Staindrop, and other lordships. This opinion, which is supported by a reference to the singular figure of the tower, is, perhaps, sufficiently refuted by the general tradition which refers it to Bertram Bulmer; not, we should suppose, the first, but the *second* of that name, who lived in the reign of Stephen, and was son of Ancatellus, Bertram's brother, and related to the Nevills by the marriage of the heiress of Bertram with Robert, Lord Nevill, Baron of Raby. Some intermediate buildings, between this tower and the main pile, are said to have been destroyed by fire.

The interior of the Castle is distributed into a great number of apartments; many of them handsomely fitted up. The Entrance Hall is uncommonly grand; its vastness, and apparent stability, never failing to excite admiration. The roof is arched, and supported on six pillars, with capitals, diverging and spreading along the ceiling. Here his Lordship's visitors quit their carriages, which are admitted into the Hall, and afterwards pass off on the opposite side, through the inner area and covered way. At one end is a flight of steps, leading to the Presence Chamber, Music-Room, Billiard-Room, &c. all which are very neatly decorated. Above the Hall is another spacious apartment, ninety feet in length, thirty-six in height, and thirty-four in breadth. This room, which at present has no particular destination, was the place where the ancient baronial festivals were celebrated; and 700 Knights, who held of the Nevilles', are recorded to have been entertained here at one time. The west end is crossed by a stone gallery, whence the minstrels poured forth their animating strains in the hours of revelry, or of *dreadful preparation*;

“ When

“ When throngs of Knights, and Barons bold,”
On warlike themes high converse hold.

Several of the smaller apartments have been hollowed out from the walls, which are of great solidity and strength. The Kitchen is a square of thirty feet, with an arched roof, and cupola lights in the centre; it has likewise five windows, from each of which steps descend; but only in one instance to the floor; and before them a gallery running round the whole interior of the fabric: it has three chimnies, besides narrow passes channelled in the walls, through which the provisions are supposed to have been anciently served up in the great Banqueting-Room. The ancient oven was proportioned to the munificence displayed by its princely possessors; and is mentioned by Pennant as being converted into a wine cellar, “ the sides being divided into ten parts, each holding a hogshead of wine in bottles.”

The park, pleasure-grounds, and plantations, of Raby, accord with the extent and dignity of the Castle. Many parts command very beautiful and enlarged prospects, where the woods sweep over the rising grounds of a diversified tract of country, and the distant eminences blend with the horizon: one of the terraces is upwards of 750 yards in length. On the estate is an extensive farm; to which particular attention was given by the late Earl, who introduced every agricultural improvement, and erected many useful buildings. The farm-yard is excluded from the Castle by an embattled screen, over the gateway of which is a rude sculpture of a bull, bearing an ensign and mantle, adorned with the Nevilles’ arms: this was removed hither from Bulmer’s Tower. The dog kennels, and stables, are built in an ornamental style, and judiciously situated, so as not to detract from the grandeur of the Castle: from particular points of view, they form good objects in the different prospects.

Raby Castle continued to be the grand residence of the Nevilles till the reign of Elizabeth, when Charles, the sixth and last Earl of Westmoreland of that family, engaged in a weak conspiracy to dethrone his Sovereign. Being obliged to abandon his country, he fled to the Netherlands, where he died a miserable

exile, in 1584. His immense estates were declared forfeited; and in the reign of James the First, were consigned by grant to certain citizens of London for sale: of them the Castle and demesnes of Raby were purchased by Sir Henry Vane, Knt.* from whom they have descended to the present noble possessor.

On COCKFIELD FELL, north of Raby, are many lines and ancient entrenchments of unknown origin; but the most remarkable appearance here, is that of the *Dyke*, or Break in the strata, by which the seams of stone, and of coal (with which this district abounds) are "thrown up to the southward, three fathoms." The Break is about fifteen or sixteen yards in width, and, according to
Hutchinson,

* The following is a copy of a *Perticular* of the Castle, lands, tenements, &c. possessed in the Lordship and Manor of Raby, by Sir Henry Vane, the elder; with their rents, and respective values.

"Imprimis. The Castle of Raby, and y^e site thereof: Item, The Lordship and Manor of Raby. Item, the East Parke Marwen Carr Little Parke and Crowe Close, conteyning by estimation two hundred and eleaven acres or thereabouts, 140l. Item, The Middle Parke, conteyning by estimation three hundred and foure acres or thereabouts, 200l. Item, the Best Parke, conteyning by estimation seaven hundred sixtie one acres or thereabouts, being now adjusted out besides y^e game of 400 Deere, and a Race of Mares, and Coultis to the number of fiftie, 110l. Item, The Slaughter Close, 4l. 10s. Item, One great pasture ground called the high Wood, conteyning by estimation one thousand acres or thereabouts, 110l. Item, One Close of meadow or pasture called Howlett fields, conteyning by estimation fourscore acres or thereabouts, 40l. Item, Certaine Closes of Meadow and Pasture Ground called Staindrop Carrs and Raby, now intack in y^e possession of Cuthbert Darn-ton, 9l. Item, Three Closes at the East Parke Gate, late in y^e possession of Charles Watson, 3l. Item, A Capitall messuage wth certaine arrable lands, meadow and pasture grounds inclosed, in Staindrop and elsewhere, late purchased of Mr. Ewbancks, of the yearly value and rente of 204l. 4s. 8d. Item, a Close of pasture called Nettlebedd, 1l. 3s. 4d. Item, One Tenem^t. called Hill howse wth certaine closes of meadow or pasture adjoyning, in the Occupation of Ralph Hodgson, 8l. Item, y^e. Colliary, Delfe, or Colemyne, lately purchased of Mr. Rosse within y^e. Lo^{pp}. of Raby, 100l. Item, y^e. Rectorie and Tithes impropriate of y^e Colledjiat and Parrish Church of Staindrop p. ann 270l. 10s. 2d. Item, two Malte mills in Staindrop aforesaid, called the East Mill and the West mill, both in the Occupation of Mr. Conyers of y^e present yeerly rente of 51l. 8s. Item, The Increase Rents in Raby Lo^{pp} p. Ann. 64l. 17s. 9d.

Hutchinson, filled with the same kind of substance as Derbyshire toad-stone, and in other respects, presenting similar appearances to the dislocated strata of that county.* One of the shafts of a Colliery here is used for the purpose of casting shot. In this operation the lead, when sufficiently heated, is *poisoned* with arsenic, and poured through an iron sieve, with different sized perforations, into a large tub of water, placed to receive it at the bottom of the shaft. The shot attain their globular form by this process, and are then shaken in a barrel with black-lead dust, by which means they become polished for use. The depth of the fall is twenty-five fathoms: between two and three tons of shot are easily made by this method in one day.

STREATLAM CASTLE, the seat of John Lyon Bowes, Earl of Strathmore, stands in a secluded but romantic vale, surrounded by high and irregular hills, nearly three miles westward from Raby Castle. The present mansion was erected on the foundation of the old Castle at the beginning of the last century, and several of the apartments are retained in it; but the general arrangement is very different, as appears from a painting of the former, which is still preserved here. The first castle that stood on this spot is thought to have been built in the thirteenth century, by Sir John Trayne, who married Agnes, daughter and heiress of Ralph de le Hay, Lord Percy, and niece to Bernard Baliol, grandfather to the King of Scots of that name, by whom Streatlam, Stainton, and other estates, were given to her in dower. Alice, the issue of this marriage, and sole heiress, married Sir Adam Bowes, from whom the present Earl inherits in right of his mother, the late celebrated Countess of Strathmore. This Castle was rebuilt in the fifteenth century, by Sir William Bowes, who was knighted for his valor at the battle of Vernoyle, in France, in 1424: many others of this family have been renowned for their bravery. The park displays some rich natural scenery, and is stocked with fine deer: it has lately been considerably enlarged by Lord Strathmore, who has re-united the Stainton estate, by purchase from the

* History of Durham, Vol. III. p. 523. † 529.

the *Huttons*, for 24,000l. The Huttons obtained it as a marriage portion with one of the Bowes. The great oaken stairs in the present mansion were added by Andrew Robinson Stoney Bowes, Esq. who was closely besieged here for some days after he had stolen Lady Strathmore from London.

BARNARD CASTLE

Is situated on the southern acclivity of an eminence, rising with a steep ascent from the river Tees. Its name, and probably origin, are derived from a formidable castle erected on the summit of a rock on the west side soon after the Conquest, the ruins of which cover an extensive plot of ground. The whole district appears to have been originally called *Marwood*, and to have belonged to the Wapentake of Sadberg; consequently it remained free from the palatine jurisdiction of the Bishop, till the annexation of Sadberg to this See. *Marwood* also appears to have been the name of an ancient town about half a mile from Barnard Castle, of which there is no other trace than an old building, said to have been the church, but now used as a barn.

The town is populous, and extends in length about a mile; it possesses one of the largest corn markets in the north of England; but the *Market-Cross*, *Tolbooth*, or Town House, and *Shambles*, are very inconveniently situated, being in the very *middle of the way*. In this respect, perhaps, as well as by the indifferent paving, the inhabitants appear to have had reference to a charter bestowed by Hugh Baliol, who, after allowing them to use their own ovens, granted to each of its Burgesses "*capere viam ante ostium suum pro domibus suis edificandis et fumum colligere in via ante ostium, usque mediam viam.*" The Market-Cross itself is a neat free-stone building, open at the sides for popular accommodation. The *Church*, or rather Chapel, Barnard Castle forming part of Gainsford parish, offers nothing remarkable but an ancient base bell, said to have been brought from Eggleston Abbey, and an octagonal font of black marble, having on four sides, devices, apparently symbolical of the Trinity; and on the other four, shields
inscribed

inscribed with Saxon characters in cyphers, expressing its dedication *Pater Filius et Spiritus Sanctus*. The houses are disposed in several streets; and under the late act, were returned at 312; the inhabitants at 2166; including the other parts of the township. The laboring class are chiefly employed in the manufacture of Scotch camblets, or tammies, and in the tanning and stocking businesses. Of late years, the woollen trade has greatly declined, through the rise of the cotton branches.

BARNARD CASTLE was founded by Bernard, son of Guy Baliol, who came into England with the Conqueror, and on whom William Rufus bestowed the forests of Teesdale and Marwood, and the rich lordships of Middleton and Gainsford, with all their royal franchises, liberties, and immunities. Bernard, son of the former Bernard, granted the inhabitants free burgage: this was confirmed, with additional liberties, by this son and successor Hugh Baliol, in whose time Alexander, King of Scotland, made an irruption into England, and having subdued all the fortresses in Northumberland for Lewis of France, came before the Castle of Bernard; when Eustace de Vesey, brother-in-law to Alexander, being on a reconnoitering party, was killed by an arrow from a cross-bow; but it does not appear that the Castle was assailed. John Baliol, the next possessor, founded an hospital, which survived the Dissolution, and still receives three alms-women. This chieftain was the successful claimant to the crown of Scotland; which was awarded him by Edward the First. In his time the franchises and privileges of this liberty, and its independence of the palatinate, were pretty distinctly ascertained.*

On

* By various records it appears, that here were an itinerant judge to dispense justice; a chief bailiff of the liberty; a constable of the castle; a forester; and a porter of the castle, with separate fees; and coroner for the liberty, appointed by the lord. The Bishop of Durham had also an escheator; but this was not till the reign of Philip and Mary. Spearman, in his Enquiries, says, "that Robert de Clitherhoe, and John de Sapy, successively exercised the escheatorship of Barnard Castle, by grant from the crown." The lords of the liberty had anciently divers knights fees, wardships, marriages, and reliefs there; and had the goods of the neif, or native, which they frequently took into their hands.

They

On the subsequent defection of Baliol, his estates were claimed by Bishop Beck as of the *jure regalia* of his palatinate; but King Edward, to humble the proud Prelate, and at the same time to abridge the overgrown power of a subject, seized the palatinate; and when it was restored to the See, it was found mutilated and abridged of many of the privileges it had gained by the forfeitures of Baliol and Bruce. Bishop Godwin informs us, that Beck made considerable reparations in this Castle during the time it remained in his possession. Edward, still determined to mortify the Bishop, and abridge his power, gave the Castle, and its members, to Guy Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick, in whose family it continued for five descents. It afterwards came to the Crown; and Richard the Third took great delight in the place, and contributed much to its embellishment; his cognizance appearing not only in the walls of the Castle, but in several parts of the town. On his death, Henry the Seventh came into possession, and it has been a Crown domain ever since. The Castle, honor, and privileges, with the parks, lands, and appurtenances, were purchased by an ancestor of the present Earl of Darlington; and King Charles the First, 1640, granted to Sir Henry Vane, sundry privileges annexed to his manor of Raby, and honour of Castle Barnard. William the Third, in 1699, created the latter a barony; it is now the second title in the Earldom of Darlington.

Mr. Hutchinson describes the remains of the Castle as covering about six acres and three quarters of ground: the parts of chief strength stand on the brink of a steep rock, about eighty perpendicular feet above the Tees, on the north-east corner of the principal area, commanding a most beautiful prospect up the river.

The

They had free warren and chace, with extent of large moors and wastes, in which they had the soil, mines, quarries, and other perquisites, from whence they made the grant before specified. They had the return of writs and warrents awarded thither, so that no officer or minister should enter there, but by writ of *de non omittas*: also, "markets and fairs, pillory, &c. &c. and that none should keep ale-houses within that liberty, without the licence of the steward in open court, for which there was a yearly rent of brew-farm, anciently paid to the lord." *Hutchinson's Durham, Vol. III. p. 239.*

The area on the side of the market-place appears not to have had any communication with the chief strong-holds and bulwarks of the fortress; and is separated from the interior buildings by a deep fosse, which surrounds the rest of the Castle. This area is fenced with a high wall along the edge of the rocks behind Brig-gate. The gateway to the Flatts opens from a large area to the ancient road, which communicated with the ford. This area, together with that before described, were anciently used to receive the cattle of the adjacent country, in times of invasion and public danger. The gateway last mentioned is defended by a demi-bastion, and the broken walls shew appearances of maskings and out-works. At a turn of the wall, southward, was a tower which flanked the wall towards the gate, from which over the fosse was a draw-bridge. This area contains the remains of some edifices, one of which is called Brackenbury's Tower. The chief strong-holds stand on more elevated ground than any within the areas described; they were surrounded by a dry ditch, or covered way, with small gateways through the intersecting walls: this ditch is terminated on one hand by a sally-port, that commanded the bridge to the west; and on the other by a sally-port to the north; the covered way almost surrounding the inner fortress. The area, in which the chief erections were arranged, is almost circular; the buildings are of different æras. Northward, the walls are of modern and superior architecture, supported by strong buttresses, and defended by a square turret towards the east: to the south, the wall appears very ancient and thick, and has been strengthened, by trains or lines of large oak beams, disposed in tiers in the centre of the wall, at equal distances, so as to render it firm against battering engines: on each side of the sally-port to the bridge, within the gate, was a semicircular or demi-bastion, loaded with earth to the top, very strong, and of rough mason work, built chiefly of blue flints; the greatest part of one of these bastions still remains: here are some of the most ancient parts of the Castle. The west side of the area has contained the principal lodgings, in some parts six stories high; the state rooms stood in this quarter: two large pointed windows, looking upon the river,

seem

seem to be the most modern; together with a bow-window, hung on corbels in the upper ceiling: here is the figure of a boar passant, relieved, and in good preservation. Adjoining to these apartments, and on the north-west corner of the fortress, is a circular tower, of excellent masonry, in ashler work, having a vault, the roof of which is plain, without ribs or central pillar. This vault is thirty feet in diameter; the stairs of the ascent to the upper apartments are channelled in the wall. In the adjoining grounds, called *the Flatts*, is a large reservoir, cut in swampy ground, called *the Ever*: water was collected and conveyed there in pipes, to supply the garrison and cattle inclosed within the walls of the outer areas in times of public danger; for which protection the adjacent lands paid a rent, called Castle-guard rent, for the Castle land. By the cognizance of the boar, and the apparent age of the buildings last described, it is reasonable to determine, these were the works of Richard, Duke of Gloucester, who, it is said, possessed this Castle in right of his wife. Leland makes mention of a "fair chapelle" in this Castle; but no traces remain of the building.*

The outer area of the Castle is now used as a pasture for sheep; and other parts inclosed by the walls have been long converted into orchard ground. The wall that surrounds the circular area, has a narrow passage running through the middle, of scarcely sufficient extent to admit one person to creep through. Many portions of the ruins are richly mantled with ivy, and present very fine views, particularly from the south bank of the river, which washes the foot of the rock on which the Castle stands, and whose sides are cloathed with fine wood. Sir George Bowes, of Streatham, on the rumour of the rebellion of the Earls of Westmoreland and Northumberland, in the reign of Elizabeth, possessed himself of this fortress, and resisted the whole power of the insurgents for eleven days, when he surrendered on honorable terms. The bridge, which then crossed the Tees, was destroyed in the contest: the present bridge was built in 1596, and consists of two elliptical arches.

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* Hutchinson's Durham, Vol. III. p. 246.

The environs of Barnard Castle are remarkably beautiful; the vale of the Tees abounding with picturesque and romantic views. Indeed, the whole course of the river, from its source to Winston and Gainsford, presents such a rich combination of charming objects, that the most melancholy disposition could not fail to be interested.

On Barnard Castle Moor is BAIL HILL, which has been fortified by a breastwork, and deep trench, terminating in a morass. Near this spot many coins of Edward the First, and some of Alexander, King of Scots, have been found. The prospect from the summit commands a very extensive tract of country.

SHIPLEY HOUSE, now belonging to the Earl of Strathmore, was a hunting seat of James the Second's, and extremely well chosen for the purpose, as the neighbourhood abounds with foxes. It was then the residence of Simpson, the King's Huntsman, who left his country to share the fate of his Royal Master. Its celebrity is still great; and the Earl of Darlington, who has some of the best hounds in England, frequently resorts hither. Shipley formerly abounded with furnaces for making iron, and vast heaps of iron scoria yet remain on the land.

EGGLESTON was part of the possessions of the Earls of Westmoreland; but is now the property of William Hutchinson, Esq. whose family obtained it by purchase in the beginning of the last century. In this district are lead-mines, which have been wrought from the time of Edward the Sixth: various ancient workings have also been traced here, and, by the different implements found in them, are supposed to have been wrought by the Romans. On the average, ten ounces of silver are extracted from each fother (22 Cwt.) of lead produced in Teesdale. EGGLESTON HOUSE, the seat of Mr. Hutchinson, occupies a lofty site on the banks of the river, and is screened from the north by plantations growing on the slopes of the hills. The garden contains one of the best botanical collections in England, upwards of 700 different plants being arranged here: several pleasant walks are cut through the rocks bordering on the Tees. The wastes round the village have been also inclosed, and planted, by Mr. Hutchinson; and

the silver fir is particularly flourishing. Eggleston Chapel is most singularly situated in the midst of this gentleman's botanical gardens. Near Eggleston, on the north, are extensive works, for smelting, refining, and reducing lead. The Quakers, and London Company, have also some very ingenious machinery and mills here, for breaking and cleansing the ore and slag, the invention of the active Mr. Hall, now of Arkendale, in Yorkshire. The prospect from *Nemal Edge*, north of the mills, is one of the most extensive and diversified in the county: on the east it commands the whole variegated Vale of Cleveland, with the sea near Hunscliff Point; and on the south-west, the beautiful windings of the Tees, with the distant mountains of Yorkshire, Westmoreland, and Cumberland.

One mile north of Eggleston is an ancient remain, called the **STANDING STONES**; this originally consisted of a Cairn in the centre, surrounded by a trench; and that again encompassed by a circular arrangement of rough stones, many of which have been removed, and broken, to repair the roads. Near a brook, at a small distance, is a large barrow, crossed from east to west by a row of stones.

MIDDLETON

Is a small market-town, occupying a singular situation among hills, and extending, in somewhat of an oval form, round an extensive green. The inhabitants are chiefly engaged in mining; and almost every house is either used as an ale-house, or for the sale of some kind of goods. The Church is an ancient but small building; but the living is worth 1500*l.* per annum. The parish extends nearly twenty miles from west to east, and between two and three from north to south. The whole of the northern half is one series of lead-mines; in which, the country being exceedingly mountainous, the mode called *Hushing* is chiefly practised. The hushings frequently raise and discolour the waters of the Tees, destroying its fish in great quantities. Some horse levels have been carried beneath the hills to an extent of five miles. The west side of the parish was anciently part of the extensive forest called

Teesdale or Marwood Forest, and was well stocked about 1459, when the Bishop made John Nevill, Earl of Westmoreland, its forester. In the winter of 1673, four hundred deer perished in the snow. The houses in this township, according to the late returns, are 140; the population, 796.

Near Middleton is the ford into Yorkshire, called *Step Ends*, where many accidents have happened in crossing the river, the stream being at times very rapid, and old and young, male and female, obliged to wade through it, though rising above the waist. Two miles higher up is WYNCH BRIDGE, constructed with wood, suspended on two iron chains, which reach from side to side, and are secured in the rocks. This fabric is sixty-three feet in length, though scarcely more than two feet broad: its height above the river, which falls in repeated cascades, is fifty feet. The tremulous motion of the bridge, and the dashing of the waters beneath, fill the bosom of the stranger with considerable apprehension and alarm.

Three miles from Wynch Bridge is HIGH FORCE, or *Force-Fall*, a sublime cataract, darting its waters over a huge rock of black marble, seventy feet high. Above the fall, the river is closely pent up, and swelling into rage, here precipitates in awful crash into a reservoir more than sixty feet deep. Tranquillity and ease is not its destiny:

“ Full swift it dashes on the rocky mounds,
Where through a shapeless break the stream resounds.
As high in air the bursting torrents flow,
As deep recoiling surges foam below:
Prone down the rock the whitening sheet descends,
And viewless Echo’s ear, astonish’d, rends.
Far seen through rising mists, and ceaseless show’rs,
The hoary cavern, wide-surrounding, low’rs;
Still through the gap, the struggling river toils,
And still below, the horrid cauldron boils.”

BURNS.

The clouds of spray arising from the descending waters, assume, when enlightened by the beams of the sun, all the brilliant beauties

of the rain-bow. In winter it presents a very different, though not less interesting aspect. The projecting points of the rocks are then decorated with a boundless diversity of large icy stalactites, and curiously crystallized fringes, which form an endless variety of prisms, that operate on the sun's rays like so many crystal lustres, decorating them in ten thousand directions in the most brilliant manner. The force and boiling of the waters at the bottom of the fall, has excavated several caverns in the solid marble, but of difficult access, except during severe frosts. Here the mineralogist and the botanist may wander with much satisfaction; the stratification of the rocks, and the many curious plants that clothe them, furnishing numerous objects to gratify their researches. The beautiful Burnet Rose has been met with here; and not far distant was discovered the *Gentiana Verna*, though not previously known to exist in Great Britain. The noise of the fall may be heard many miles round the country; at some distance below it, the rocks rise in square columns, to the perpendicular height of 100 feet.

CAULDRON SNOUT, another cataract on the Tees, is about four miles above the High Force. This, with its wild and romantic adjuncts, forms a spectacle of vast and gigantic sublimity. The river issues from a deep and lethargic pool, or mountain lake, called the *Weeld*, and precipitating itself over a vast barrier of whin, or basaltic rock, is dashed from steep to steep in sheets of foam, forming a chain of cascades through a descent of 600 yards. Over the deepest and most awful part of the gulph, where the rocks approach nearest to each other, is thrown a beam of timber, serving for a bridge, which none but the most resolute can pass without horror. The *Weeld* is about one mile and a half in length; and receives the waters of the Tees, after their descent from the deep and narrow glens which accompany their progress from the elevated regions of Cross-fell.



ESSEX.

AT the time of the Roman invasion, ESSEX, with all MIDDLESEX, was inhabited by the people called *Trinobantes*, or *Trinovantes*; an appellation obtained from the situation of their country on the borders of the broad expanse of waters formed by the Thames: thus the tribe inhabiting the low peninsula of Galloway, in Scotland, were termed *Novantes*. The name *Tranovant* would have been given by the Britons to the *Country beyond the Stream*; and its inhabitants called *Tranovanti*, *Tranovantwyr*, *TRANOVANTWYS*, &c.* The *Trinobantes*, as appears from the testimony of ancient writers, possessed two considerable cities, or fortified stations: one of them occupied “the eminence betwixt the Thames and the Fleetbrook,”† the centre of modern London; the other appears to have been at Colchester, in this county. Dissentions among the *Trinobantes* paved the way to the conquest of Britain by the Romans; Mandubratius, a Prince of this nation, having been the first to invite Cæsar to invade the country. For this purpose he went to Gaul, and returning with the Romans, became instrumental, by his influence, to the subjugation of the Britons; the *Trinobantes* setting the base example of submission to the invaders.

On the subdivision of this Island by the Romans, under Constantine the Great, Essex was included in that part named FLAVIA CÆSARIENSIS. From the Itinerary of Antoninus, five principal stations appear to have been either formed, or occupied, by the Romans in this county. These were *Durolitum*, *Cæsaromagus*, *Canonium*, *Canulodunum*, and *Ad Ansam*. These places

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* Cambrian Register, Vol. II. p. 10.

† Whitaker's History of the Britons.

were all seated on the road which formed the fifth Iter, from Londunum to Venta Icenorum. Camulodunum was unquestionably the principal station in Essex; and though its site has been much contested by different writers, an attentive examination of the places assigned by the various disputants, combined with a knowledge of the antiquities discovered in the vicinity of each, will admit little doubt of Colchester being the real situation.*

Essex formed a separate and distinct kingdom during a certain period of the Saxon Heptarchy, and was called East-Seaxa; but the times of its first establishment and termination as a Saxon kingdom are not authenticated. Turner† states that this and East Anglia were originally occupied by the Saxons at nearly the same time; and that Erkenwin was the first King of the former; commencing his reign in 527, and dying in 587. It is observed by Rapin, that, of all the kingdoms of the Saxon Heptarchy, Essex is less noticed by historians than any of the others.

By the Domesday Book it appears, that ninety land-owners of this county were deprived of their lands by the Conqueror; during whose reign the whole civil and ecclesiastical government of the kingdom, and of each county, underwent very considerable changes. That of Essex was now governed and tyrannized over by Norman Barons, who constructed castles on their estates for personal security, and to awe their dependant vassals. In the Civil Wars between the houses of York and Lancaster, and in those of Charles's time, this county suffered much from the interference of the De Veres in the former, and during the long siege of Colchester in the latter. Formerly there were twelve castles, or fortified buildings, in this county; four of which have been denominated *Royal Castles*, as built for national security. These are Colchester, Hadleigh, Langward Fort, and Tilbury Fort.

* In our second volume, p. 4, on the authority of Camden and Horsley, we have referred to Malden as the real Camulodunum; a more comprehensive investigation of authorities, and a visit to each of the assigned stations, have induced us to decide as above.

† Anglo Saxon History, Vol. I. p. 176.

Fort. The other eight were *Castellated mansions* ; but formed for great strength and security. These were, Candfield and Hedingham, belonging to the De Veres, Earls of Oxford. Clavinging and Raleigh, belonging to Suene, of Essex, who possessed besides these, fifty-three other Lordships in this county. Ongar, belonging to Richard de Lucy. Pleshy, first possessed by the Duke of Gloucester, High Constable of England. Stanstead-Montfichet, belonging to De Montfichet ; and Walden, to Geoffrey de Mandeville at the time of the Domesday Survey. These very formidable fortresses, though once the pride of the nobility, and terror of the peasantry, are mostly razed to the ground ; the only parts remaining are their high keeps, and wide fosses. At Colchester, Hadleigh, Hedingham, and Walden, some parts of the buildings or walls remain.

This county is bounded by Suffolk and Cambridgeshire on the north, by the counties of Hertford and Middlesex on the west, by the river Thames on the south, and by the Sea on the east. Its extent, from east to west, is estimated at sixty miles ; and from north to south, at about fifty : its circumference is computed at 225 miles. It is divided into twenty parts, of which fourteen are hundreds ; five, half-hundreds ; and one, a Royal liberty. These are subdivided into about 400 parishes and townships, and twenty-five towns ; containing, according to the late official report, 39,398 houses, and 226,437 inhabitants ; of whom 111,356 are males, and 115,081 females.

Essex composes part of that tract of country on the eastern side of England, which forms the largest connected space of level ground in the whole Island ; not one lofty eminence or rocky ridge being found in several contiguous counties. The surface of Essex is not, however, totally flat, having many gentle hills and dales ; and towards the north-west, whence most of the rivers proceed, the country rises, and presents a continued inequality of surface. The most level tracts are those of the southern and eastern hundreds. The sea-coast is broken into a series of islets and peninsulas, deeply cut in by arms of the sea, and exhibiting evident tokens of the force and effects of that restless element. Extensive

salt marshes border most of the coast, the greater part of which is protected by embankments. The banks of the Thames, and the lower part of the sea, are likewise low and marshy. This county lies under a proverbial imputation of being particularly unhealthy; but this character can only apply to a small part of it; as the middle and northern districts are justly noted for a fine dry soil, with a wholesome clear air. That part known by the name of the *Hundreds of Essex*, bordering on the south coast, from its low and marshy situation, and exposure to the easterly winds and sea fogs, is certainly inimical to health, and many intermitting fevers proceed from these causes.

Essex derives many advantages from its maritime trade, as well as from its vicinity to the Metropolis. The conveniency of water-carriage, and goodness of its roads, give it a commercial superiority over many other counties. Its surface is generally level; the greater part is inclosed, and rendered highly productive by the skilful management of the agriculturalists. The principal productions are wheat, barley, oats, beans, peas, turnips, tares, rape, mustard, rye-grass, and trefoil. Many acres are also appropriated to the cultivation of hops, carraway, coriander, teasel, and various horticultural plants and roots. The latter are confined to the large towns, and to the lands adjoining the Metropolis. Almost every species of *soil* is to be found within the limits of Essex, from the most stubborn to the mildest loam. The north-west side is characterized by a chalky substratum; but the east and south sides abound with marshy and boggy land, having abundance of gravel intermixed. Of waste lands and forests, Messrs. Griggs* computed the county to contain fifteen thousand acres; the greater part of which, they observe, is capable of producing corn. Since their report, however, many districts have been inclosed and cultivated. From the extent and variety of soil of this county, it is totally impossible to preserve one uniform *system of farming*: the most established and prevailing mode is described as follows by the above gentlemen. "In the eastern part, the land is chiefly of a strong

* General View of the Agriculture of Essex.

strong good staple, and, excepting the marshes, and here and there a small portion of meadow, is under the plough, and produces very considerable returns of every sort of grain and pulse. The most approved mode of treating the heavy land here, as in every other part of the country, is to winter fallow it every third or fourth, and, in some parts, every second or third year; after which, in the eastern parts, oats or barley are sown, and the land laid down with clover, trefoil and rye-grass; and having lain one year, is again broken up soon after Michaelmas, and wheat is sown; after which, if the land is clean, and in good condition, the farmer takes a crop of beans, and then fallows again. The next rotation frequently is wheat, beans well hoed, and then wheat again. On the lighter lands are sown, first, turnips, for which a fallow is always made, and the land then manured. Barley, sown with clover, &c. which is fed off the ensuing year, succeeds the crop of turnips; then wheat upon the clover lay; and after that, peas: but where the clover fails, (a circumstance not unusual,) the land is considered unfit for wheat, and peas are sown in its stead. Towards the middle of Essex, and the northern part bordering upon Suffolk, the soil varies considerably; some being light, with chalky clay, or gravelly sand, at a foot or a foot and half below the surface; other parts are moist and binding, affording a quick vegetation, and requiring constant attention in the summer months, to prevent it exhausting itself by a spontaneous produce. The plough is seen to occupy a large part of this district, as little more meadow or old pasture grounds are found, than will supply hay and feed for the horses on the farms, and feed for a few cows kept for the purpose of suckling, and dry cattle and sheep, which are principally bought in one year, and sold out the next. Here every sort of grain, pulse, and artificial grass, is found, with some well-managed and productive hop-grounds, which, from the vast expence of cultivating, and uncertain produce, are kept in the hands of the most opulent landholders, to whom they are, upon the whole, lucrative."*

* Griggs' General View of the Agriculture of Essex.

sex is too distant from the pits to procure chalk; but lime, clay, and other manures, are applied advantageously to the soil. In the north-west part of the county, the land is rendered most productive by one crop only, and then fallow; except, indeed, where it will bear turnips or clover. Here is but little meadow or pasture; but, in consequence of frequent fallows, very great crops of wheat, oats, and barley, are frequently obtained. The latter grain is malted on the spot, and sent to the London market, where it is in high esteem. In the western part, bordering the river Lea, and including the forests of Epping, and Hainault, is found an intermixture of soils, from a wet, heavy, tough clay, upon a tile earth, to a light, tender, thin soil upon gravel. The tile earth is often used in the manufacturing of coarse earthen pots, tiles, &c. Exclusive of the forests, the greater part of this district is pasture land, appropriated to the dairy, and suckling of calves. Many districts on the east side of the county are extremely productive in the various crops of wheat, beans, oats, cole-seed, rape, coriander, and mustard. "The wheat is not unfrequently found to rise to a load an acre; oats (particularly the Poland) to eleven or twelve quarters; and beans, and other corn, in proportion. Some of this land has been known to produce five or six of the most exhausting crops successively. Wheat has been sown three successive years upon the same field, and the crops upon an average have amounted to four quarters per acre. This part of the county, in particular, is tilled with great spirit and judgment, though at a very great expence."

Though Essex is not highly celebrated for its *Dairies*, yet those in the parish of Epping, and its vicinity, are famous for the richness of their cream and butter. The butter is mostly sent to London, where it bears a high character and price. In the selection of cows for the dairy, those of Holderness, Leicester, and Derby, are usually preferred; though the Norfolk, Suffolk, Lincoln, Welsh, and other breeds, are often indiscriminately blended. The common process of making the Epping *butter*, is to let the milk stand twenty-four hours, when the cream is skimmed off, and the milk is drawn into vessels (not lined with lead) of an increased depth,

depth, (this is called *doubling*,) where it remains for about twenty hours, during which time the rising cream is occasionally skimmed off. It is afterwards put into deeper vessels, (which is called *trebling*,) when all the remaining cream, or rich milk, is separated from it. The butter made from these last skimmings, or after fleetings, is of a paler color, and inferior quality to that made from the first skimmed cream, is churned separately, and sold at lower prices. The skimmed milk is commonly applied to the feeding and fattening of young pigs and porkers; and it appears, from repeated experiments, that the fat of these animals is firmer, and “vastly superior to that of hogs fattened upon peas or meal.”* On a calculation, that two acres of prime pasture, at twenty-three shillings each, will support a cow one year, and making allowance for all usual expences and receipts, on a dairy of twenty cows, Mr. Vancouver makes it appear, that the annual profits of such a dairy will be 108l. 0s. 8d. To produce this profit, however, it is necessary that the dairy be of prime quality, and regulated by the most skilful and attentive management. Each cow is allowed to give suck for forty weeks in the year. In the first twenty-six, its milk will produce six pounds of butter per week; and in the other fourteen, about four pounds per week; thus yielding about 212 pounds annually. The milk from each cow is also estimated to support twelve pigs, and twenty calves, during the above period.

Essex is proverbially distinguished for its *Calves*, of which more are bred or fattened here than in any other English county. The stock of cows is chiefly appropriated to the dairy, and grazing; to them may be added, suckling as an object of great attention with the Essex farmer. The North Wales cows are, by some persons, preferred for this purpose; but the Devonshire breed has been found greatly superior to all others; “not only for the dairy, and suckling, but in their disposition to keep in good order during the term of their milk, and in their great aptitude to feed, or to fatten afterwards: thus uniting at once, all those qualities which are supposed

* Vancouver's General View of the Agriculture of Essex.

supposed to exist individually in other breeds; and thus in one species concentrating all those excellencies so long and so earnestly sought for in the most perfect of those animals."* These excellencies consist in their being satisfied with a less quantity, and inferior quality, of food, than the Derby or Leicester; and their thin blue milk being more applicable to suckling, &c. Besides the calves that are bred within this county, great numbers are brought from other parts of the kingdom, and fattened here for the London butcher. To promote their fattening, some feeders prepare a small ball, of about two ounces weight, which is composed of the powder of fenugreek, wheat meal, and a small quantity of powdered chalk, blended together with mild ale. This is given them morning and evening, just before sucking; and is found to facilitate their fattening, from its soporific and composing effects. This nutritious opiate is also deemed useful in whitening the veal: a calf thus managed, is generally rendered completely fat in about twelve weeks.

Potatoes are cultivated to considerable extent in different parts of the county, and are occasionally employed to prepare a field for wheat. In the light lands, they fallow and manure as for barley, ploughing four furrow ridges, and planting two rows or sets at eight inches apart on each ridge. In the early part of the summer, the furrows are ploughed, and the plants earthed up as much as possible. The crop is obtained by splitting down the ridges with a double-breasted plough, and 300 bushels per acre is esteemed the average produce. Near Ilford are some extensive potatoe grounds, which are constantly appropriated to this root. To support a succession of crops, it is necessary to supply the land with abundance of manure, most of which is obtained from London.

Cabbages, though lately introduced into Essex, as food for cattle, sheep, &c. are now raised in great numbers, and are esteemed a good succedaneum for turnips. The land is ploughed into four furrowed ridges, with about 400 bushels of long dung per acre.

* Vancouver's General View of the Agriculture of Essex.

acre. This is ploughed under, making the furrows the ridges, on the tops of which, and at nearly one yard apart, about a quart of water is poured down on the spot where the plant is intended to be fixed. A boy places the plants ready for the dibber, who sets them in the mould, and another watering is then applied to the fixed plants; after which, ploughing the intervals, hoeing and moulding up the plants, follow of course. The drum-head cabbage is preferred; and it should be previously transplanted from the seed-bed, before it is committed to the field.

Among the more rare plants cultivated in Essex, are *coriander*, *teasel*, and *carraway*. The seeds of these are sometimes sown together early in the spring, upon a strong old ley, once ploughed, and are often very profitable to the proprietors. The mode of cultivating these plants is rather singular; and the farmer frequently engages with some laborer to share the equal profits of a field, upon condition of his hoeing and managing the crops. The farmer provides the land, ploughs it, pays all parish rates, and also for the seed. The laborer sows it, keeps it clean by frequent hoeings, cuts, threshes, and prepares it for the market; when the produce is equally divided. This connection commonly lasts three years, sometimes longer. "In the first, the several seeds come up, and when of sufficient growth, are set out with a hoe; and the coriander, which is annual, is ripe before harvest, and produces a return from ten to fourteen hundred weight an acre: on the second year, the teasel, most of which will run now, yields a load, or six score staffs, of fifty heads each staff; and the carraways, from three to six hundred weight of seed: the third year, the teasel declines, and the carraway is in perfection, and will yield an equal bulk with the coriander; and most of the teasel that did not run last season, will produce heads this, and afford a fourth or fifth part of the crop it did the preceding season; by which time the plants are generally exhausted; though a fourth, and even fifth, year of carraway has been known to succeed."* The coriander, or *col*, as some call it, and the carraway, must be handled with great care when ripe; and women and children

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* Griggs' General View.

are generally employed to cut it plant by plant, which are afterwards placed in cloths, and commonly threshed on sail-cloth, in the middle of the field. The teasel is also cut by women, who leave a stalk with the head six or eight inches in length, by which it is bound in bunches or gleans, of twenty-five heads each: the like number of gleans constitutes half a staff. Teasels are purchased and used by woollen manufacturers, who fix them on frames, and by the hand or machinery, they are applied to the surface of cloths, to raise the nap, which is cut off by the clothiers' shears.

Few counties have less minerals than Essex; which is also nearly exempt from quarries, or any mass of rocks. In consequence, the houses are almost wholly built with brick; and many of them are singular and curious specimens of brick-architecture. In constructing the castles, the monastic buildings, and many of the old mansion-houses, the builders have endeavoured to render them not only durable monuments of their skill, but also examples of their taste, displayed by a variety of ornaments in the cornices, doors, pilasters, and particularly in the chimnies. The latter are studiously varied in their shape and workmanship, and are seen with zigzag grooves running round them, with spiral and with diamond and square grooves, and several other whimsical adornments.

Some *Mineral Waters* rise in the county, but few have obtained much repute: that of Tilbury is occasionally resorted to, and found to be impregnated with some earthy and muriatic salts. The fashionable and useful practice of sea-bathing has extended its influence to Essex, and a few places on the coast, are annually visited by many persons, who seek pleasure or health, "in buffetting the briny waves." *Fish* are plentiful on the coast, and in the various creeks of this county: some of the latter, about Colchester, and the Mersey Island, are celebrated for their fine Oyster-beds. These afford a considerable article for exportation; and the true breed are highly valued in the Metropolis.

The eastern counties of England are recorded to have been the first places inhabited by the woollen manufacturers, who came over from the Continent for the purpose of working up the Eng-

lish wool, which, at an early period, was exported in a raw state. Essex, however, does not seem to have acquired any peculiar branch of manufacture, till the civil and religious persecutions practised in the Low Countries under the Duke of Alva compelled many artizans to quit those parts. Some of these settling at Colchester, commenced a manufacture of baize: this flourished considerably, and soon extended its influence to several neighbouring towns and villages, and many of the poor inhabitants were then initiated in the arts of weaving, spinning, and dressing of wool.

In the early period of our history, it is reasonably presumed, that the whole or greater part of Essex was one extensive *forest*. During the British and Roman governments, many parts must have been cleared, for stations, roads, and cultivation: yet in the time of King Stephen, it appears that the principal portion of the county was either forest, or subject to forest laws. In his reign, however, a large tract in the north-east part of the county was disafforested, and cultivated; and the remaining part, north of Stane-Street,* was disafforested by King John. Henry the Third, in the twelfth year of his reign, directed perambulations to be taken of Waltham Forest, in order to ascertain its extent and value; and about the same time had large tracts cleared for the plough. This judicious plan was pursued by Edward the First, in the twenty-sixth and twenty-eighth years of his reign: yet much forest land still remained; and Paul, Viscount Bayning, with many other gentlemen of the county, purchased of the Crown, and disafforested several parts of it. These proceedings, combined with the more equitable decisions of subsequent monarchs, occasioned the forests to contract their boundaries, and be less injurious to the public. Whilst the forests continued in the Crown, and were under the local government of arbitrary foresters and stewards, the subject whose estate was contiguous, suffered repeated oppressions. The grievance was partly redressed in the perilous reign of King John, when the Barons compulsively procured from that Monarch, the

Charter

* The road so named, was the great Roman way, which led from Colchester through the middle of the county to Bishop Stortford, &c. in Hertfordshire.

Charter of Forests, by which many of these royal districts were disafforested, and stripped of their oppressive privileges; while more lenient regulations were adopted in the government of those that remained. The forests of Epping and Hainault still retain the name, and support a few deer, &c. The office of Chief Forrester for Essex was deemed highly honorary, and generally bestowed on some illustrious person. The stewardship was also an office of great consequence, and usually enjoyed by some of the nobility. It continued in the De Veres, Earls of Oxford, for many generations; but was taken from them by Edward the Fourth, through their adherence to the Lancastrian party. On the accession of Henry the Seventh, it was restored by grant to John, Earl of Oxford. The Steward had power to substitute a lieutenant, one riding-forester, and three yeomen-foresters, in the three bailiwicks of the forest. He also had many lucrative privileges, and was keeper of *Haverling* at Bower, and of the house and park there.

Previous to the Dissolution, Essex contained no fewer than forty-seven religious houses: of these two were *mitred Abbies*; Waltham Holy Cross, and St. John's, Colchester: six *common Abbies*; Biley, Coggeshall, St. Osyth, Stratford-Langthorn, Tiltey, and Walden: twenty-two *Priories*; Burden, Blackmore, St. Botolph, Bycknaere, Malden, Chelmsford, Dunmow, Grey Friars Colchester, Earls Colne, Hatfield Broad Oak, Hatfield Peverell, Horkesly Little, Latton, Lees Little, Mersey West, Pantfield, Prittlewell, Stansgate, Takeley, Tiptree, Toby, and Thremhall: three *Nunneries*; Barking, Heddingham, and Wickes: three *Colleges*; Halstead, Pleshy, and Layer Marney: two *Præceptories of Templars*; Cressing, and Maplested Little: nine *Hospitals*; Bocking, Bröok-Street, South Weald, Crouched Friars, Heddingham Castle, Hornchurch, Ilford Great, Newport, St. Giles's at Malden, and St. Mary Magdalen at Colchester.

The principal RIVERS, properly belonging to this county, are the Colne, the Blackwater or Pant, the Chelmer, the Crouch, the Ingerbourn, the Roding, and the Cam. Besides these, Essex partakes of other rivers which serve as natural boundaries, and ir-

rigate and fertilize its land: These are the Thames, the Lea, the Stort, and the Stour.

The *Colne* rises in the parish of Ridgewell, on the northern side of the county, and pursuing a south-easterly course, passes Castle Hedingham, Halstead, and Colchester: it soon afterwards expands into a wide estuary, and is navigable from the sea to within two miles of Colchester.

The *Blackwater*, called also the *Pant* in the first part of its progress, has its source near Debden, on the borders of Cambridgeshire, and, with a constantly meandering course, passes through Bocking and Coggeshall: near Witham it receives another stream: flowing south-east, it unites with the Chelmer a little below Malden, and then joins the waters of the Ocean. Here it forms an extensive estuary, and at high tides the waters inundate a large tract of country.

The *Chelmer* has its original spring near Thaxted, and following a similar course with the former rivers, passes near the town and priory of Dunmow, and at Chelmsford receives some other streams. It now takes a north-easterly direction, and flowing through a pleasant valley, receives several tributary brooks, and joins the Blackwater near Malden.

The *Crouch* and *Ingerbourn* are small rivers, which rise in the southern side of the county, and slowly pass through a short course to the Thames. The *Roding*, a small stream, has a circuitous course in visiting Ongar, and several villages in its progress to Wanstead, Ilford, and Barking. It is made navigable to Ilford Bridge. The *Cam* takes a different direction to any of the former, and rising at three springs near Newport, passes Audley End, Chesterton, &c. and pursues a northern course to Cambridgeshire.

The *Lea* and the *Stort* constitute the western boundary of the county, separating it from Middlesex and Hertfordshire; and the Stour divides it from the county of Suffolk to the north. Numerous other smaller streams have their rise in Essex, and fall either into the Thames or the Ocean. Some of the estuaries and creeks are celebrated for their oysters.

Essex is in the Diocese of London, and contains three Arch-deaconries, and fifteen Deaneries: it returns eight members to Parliament, viz. two for the county, two for Malden, two for Harwich, and two for Colchester: is in the Home Circuit, pays twenty-four parts of the land-tax, and provides 960 men for the militia.

CHELMSFORD,

The shire town, is pleasantly situated near the centre of the county, at the confluence of the rivers Chelmer and Cann, from the ancient ford over the former of which, it evidently derives its name. Camden, without any authority, but its distance from the supposed site of Camulodunum at Malden, places Canonium here, though "every circumstance," it is observed by Mr. Gough, "is against assigning such antiquity to this town; there was not even a road near it till Henry the First's time, when Maurice, Bishop of London, to whose See it had always belonged till Bonner's time, built a bridge over the Chelmer."* Maurice possessed the episcopal dignity about the year 1100, and to his bridge this town owes its importance, as it occasioned the great road, which before passed through Writtle, a village two miles to the west, to be brought to Chelmsford, and from that time the latter increased both in houses and population. In the first year of King John, William de Sancta Maria, Bishop of London, procured the grant of a weekly market, and other privileges; these were afterwards confirmed by Edward the First.

The town and manor of Chelmsford were granted by Bishop Bonner to Henry the Eighth in the year 1545. Queen Elizabeth, in July 1563, bestowed them on Thomas Mildmay, Esq. whose family have continued proprietors from that period. In a survey taken for the Mildmays, in 1591, are these particulars: "Chelmersforde is one ancient goodly manor, scituate in the heart of the county, in good and wholesom air, conveniently and well housed, and well built for timber and tile. The chief manor
house

* Additions to the Britannia, Vol. II. p. 55.

house was in the time of Edward the Thirde, brent and wasted with fire; and before that it seemed to have been some ancient barony. Within this manor is situate the town Chelmesford, sometimes written the Burrowe of Chelmesford, well situated with more than 300 habitations, divers of them seemly for gentlemen, many fair inns, and the residue of the same habitations for victuallers and artificers of city-like buildings. This town is called the shire town, not only by the statute of eleventh of Henry the Seventh, for the custody of weights and measures, but so reputed and taken long time before by the keeping of all assizes and sessions of the peace," &c. In the eleventh of Edward the Third, four members were sent from Chelmsford to a Council held at Westminster.

Chelmsford is a respectable town, chiefly formed by four streets. Near the centre is the *Shire Hall*, an elegant, commodious, and well-designed structure, erected at the expence of the county, from designs, and under the immediate direction, of J. Johnson, Esq. architect, who having completed it to the satisfaction of his employers, and at an expence less than the original estimate, was presented, in pursuance to a vote passed at the quarter sessions in 1792, with a silver cup of elegant form. The front of the building is of white stone, with a rusticated basement, and ornamented with four three-quarter columns, supporting a pediment. The upper part of the façade is further ornamented with three appropriate emblematical basso-relievos. In the basement of this building is an open space for the corn exchange, and apartments for the courts of assize, sessions, &c. Above is an elegant assembly or county room, which extends the whole length of the building, and is furnished with a music gallery, two handsome chandeliers, and sculptured marble chimney-pieces. Behind this is a jury room, and several other convenient apartments. Contiguous to the Shire Hall is a neatly sculptured *Conduit*, having the figure of a Naiad at the top. On the different sides above the pipes whence the water issues, are the following appropriate inscriptions. ‘*Benignus Benignis.*’ Bountiful to the Bounteous. ‘*Nec parcus parcis.*’ Liberal to the Covetous. ‘*Nec diminutus largiendo.*’ Not diminished by bestowing. ‘*Sic charitas a Deo fonte.*’

Thus Charity from the Heavenly fountain. The water is brought from a spring about a quarter of a mile from the town. When the original Conduit was built is unknown; the present was erected a few years ago, chiefly from subscriptions of the inhabitants, and gifts of 100*l.* each, from the Sun and Royal Exchange Fire Offices.

The *Church* is a spacious and handsome building, dedicated to St. Mary. The body is modern, and was erected from designs by Mr. Johnson, in place of the more ancient part, which fell to the ground, with a most tremendous crash, on the night of the seventeenth of January, 1800. At the west end is a square flint tower, with pinnacles. When the original Church was founded is uncertain; but, from an inscription which was placed on the south side of the centre aisle, it appears to have been repaired by subscription, in the year 1424: in the Catholic times it contained four guilds or chantries. The burial-place of the *Mildmays* is on the north of the chancel: Benjamin, Earl Fitzwalter, and Frederica, his Countess, daughter to the gallant Duke of Schomberg, are among the number of that family who lie here interred. In rebuilding the body of the Church, the ancient character of its architecture has been preserved; but the interior is elegantly ornamented in a modern style. At the west end is a gallery, in which is a fine organ, erected by Hancock, in 1772; but since improved by Russell. The new building was opened for divine service in September, 1803.

In this town is a *Free Grammar School*, founded, and liberally endowed, in the year 1552, by Edward the Sixth, on the petition of Sir William Petre, Knight; Sir Walter Mildmay, Knight, then one of the General Supervisors of the Court of Augmentations; Sir Henry Tyrrell, Knight; and Thomas Mildmay, Esq. The Governors were at the same time constituted a body corporate. The common seal is of brass, having a rose engraven on it, and round the edge this inscription: COE. SIGILL. GUB. POSS. REV. E. BONOR. LIB. SCHO. GRAM. REG. EDRI. VIth. IN CHELMSFORD IN COM. ESSEX. The School House was rebuilt in the year 1782, by R. Benyon, Esq. then acting

Governor, on the site of a more ancient one, erected by Sir John Tyrrell, Bart. The education of youth is further provided for by two Charity Schools, supported by subscription; one founded on the seventeenth of August, 1713, for fifty boys; the other in April, 1714, for twenty girls. The School House stands at the north-east corner of the Church-Yard; adjoining to it are three *Alms-Houses* for decayed families. The *Bridge*, erected by Bishop Maurice, over the Chelmer, having greatly decayed, was rebuilt with one arch in the year 1787, from a design by Mr. Johnson. This Bridge unites the hamlet of MOULSHAM with Chelmsford. Near it, on the Moulsham side, stands the *County Gaol*, a spacious and well-arranged stone building, which was commenced in 1773, by an architect named Hylyard, but has since been much improved by Mr. Johnson. The front is formed by a commodious house occupied by the gaoler: from this westward, extends a large paved yard, terminated by the Hospital, or Ward for female criminals, and a very neat and convenient Chapel. On the north side, next the river, is a double range of cells; and beyond, another large yard, secured by a wall and iron palisades, appropriated to the use of the convicts employed in picking oakum, and making ropes. On the south side, from the house, extends a range of separate cells for condemned criminals, behind which, on the opposite side of a paved yard, are apartments for debtors, conveniently disposed. Every yard is provided with excellent spring water, which, with the general attention paid to cleanliness, greatly contributes to the health of the prisoners. In Moulsham are also six *Alms-Houses*, endowed for the relief of the same number of poor people, by Thomas Mildmay, Esq. in the year 1565: the present dwellings were erected by William Mildmay, Esq. in 1758. Within this hamlet, near the river, stood a Dominican Priory, the site of which still retains the appellation of the *Friars*. Camden, and some other writers, have attributed its foundation to Malcolm, King of Scotland; but this is evidently a mistake, as, according to the remark of Bishop Tanner,* the

R 2

Malcolms

* Notitia.

Malcolms were extinct long before the Dominicans obtained footing in England. At the Dissolution, the revenues of this house were estimated at 9l. 6s. 5d. In the thirty-fifth of Henry the Eighth, it was granted to Anthony Bonvixi; but has since become the property of the Mildmays. *Thomas Langford*, who lived in the reign of Edward the Second, and compiled a Universal Chronicle from the Creation to his own Times, besides other curious pieces, was a Friar in this house.

On Gallywood Common, near Chelmsford, is a *Race Course*, on which three plates are run for annually. One of them, of the value of 100 guineas, is given by the Queen. The others, of fifty guineas each, are provided by the subscriptions of the inhabitants, and of the neighbouring nobility and gentry. The support of the laboring classes is chiefly derived from the general business of the county, and from the multitude of carriers and passengers that take this road to the Metropolis. The number of inhabitants, as returned under the late act, was 3755; of houses 653. The country surrounding Chelmsford is extremely pleasant, and fertile: the soil principally consists of a deep rich loam, intermixed with veins of gravel. Several flourishing plantations of hops are established in the neighbourhood. Within the last six or seven years, two extensive ranges of *Barracks*, with accommodations for upwards of 4000 troops, have been erected in this parish: the largest is at the west end of the town: the other on the southern side.

At a small distance west of the latter, begins a line of embankment for defending the approach to the Metropolis, consisting of star batteries and parapets. It has been carried a considerable way in a south-east direction; but is not yet completed to the extent proposed. This line is one among the numerous works now carrying on in this country to defeat the purposes of the projected invasion.

PHILEMON HOLLAND, M. D. the Translator-General of his age, and the first that rendered Camden into English, was born at Chelmsford, in the year 1551. He was taught the first rudiments of learning at the Grammar School, and was then sent to

Trinity

Trinity College, Cambridge; in which he was afterwards advanced to a Fellowship. Removing from the University, he settled at Coventry, where he became head Master of the Royal Free School, and retained that situation many years. Here also he commenced Physician, having taken his degrees at Cambridge; but his celebrity appears to have arisen more from the number of learned works which he translated, than from either his scholastic or medicinal profession. Among his Translations, are Livy, Pliny's Natural History, Plutarch's Morals, Suetonius, Ammianus Marcellinus, Xenophon's *Cyropædia*, and the *Britannia*: to the latter he also made various additions. He was indefatigable in study; and of a comprehensive, well-informed judgment; though his style is somewhat tinctured with the conceits and quaintness of the age. He expired on the ninth of February, 1636, in his eighty-fifth year; and was buried in St. Mary's Church, Coventry. The following epigram is attributed to him, and said to have been made on writing a large folio volume with a single pen.

With one sole pen I wrote this book
 Made of a grey goose quill;
 A pen it was when I it took,
 A pen I leave it still.

MOULSHAM, the seat and manor of the *Mildmays*, was, prior to the Norman Conquest, parcel of the possessions of the Abbey Church of St. Peter's, Westminster; but becoming vested in the Crown at the Dissolution, was sold by Henry the Eighth, on the twenty-third of July, 1540, to Thomas Mildmay, Gent. one of the Auditors of the Court of Augmentations. This gentleman rebuilt the manor-house, "so that it was then accounted the greatest Esquire's building within the county of Essex."* Since that, a large modern fabric has been erected on its site, by Benjamin, Earl Fitz-Walter, from the designs, and under the direction, of the celebrated Italian architect Leoni. This building, now called

R 3

MOULSHAM

* Ancient Survey in the possession of the Mildmay family.

MOULSHAM HALL, is of a quadrangular form, inclosing a court in the centre, and commanding a view of Danbury Hill from the grand front, which has an ornamental pediment, displaying the family arms in basso-relievo; above, are the statues of Apollo, Diana, and Mercury. The interior is disposed with great judgment; and an easy access is obtained to the apartments on the different sides of the quadrangle, by means of a continued gallery on each floor.

Among the family portraits in this mansion, are those of SIR THOMAS MILD MAY, to whom the manor was sold by Henry the Eighth; SIR WALTER MILD MAY, founder of Emanuel College, Cambridge; SIR HENRY MILD MAY, represented as dead, and covered with a black velvet pall; BENJAMIN, late Earl Fitz-Walter; FREDERICA, his Lady; ROBERT, Earl of Holderness, her first husband; and MAINCHART, her father, the brave Duke of Schomberg. Here is also an ancient painting of MATILDA, daughter of the Lord Robert Fitz-Walter, who was poisoned at Dunmow by King John. The *Mildmays* trace their descent from Hugo Mildeme, or Mildme, who lived about the year 1147: Walter Mildmay settled at Writtle, near Chelmsford, about the end of the reign of Henry the Seventh, and was father of the above Sir Thomas, who had four sons, each of whom became the head of a respectable family. SIR WALTER, the youngest, the founder of Emanuel College, was born at Moulsham, and became Chancellor of the Exchequer, and Privy Counsellor to Queen Elizabeth: he died in the year 1589. Several others of this family have held honorable situations under different sovereigns.

Nearly two miles west from Moulsham is WRITTLE, formerly a market-town, but long divested of its trade by the increased importance of Chelmsford. Here, Morant, and some other antiquaries, have placed the *Cæsaromagus* of the Itinerary; but there is no evidence, as Mr. Gough observes, of its ever having been a Roman station. Near the village is a square plot of ground, inclosed by a deep moat, supposed to have been the site of a palace, recorded, in Stow's Annals, to have been erected by King John,
about

about the year 1211: some of the foundations were dug up between thirty and forty years ago. The *Church* is an ancient and spacious building, consisting of a nave, chancel, and side aisles, with an embattled tower at the west end. It is dedicated to All Saints; and appears to have been given, with its appurtenances, to the monks of Bermondsey, in Surrey, by King Stephen. In the year 1203, it was granted to the English Hospital of the Holy Ghost, at Rome, by King John; but its possessions were afterwards seized by the Crown, as belonging to an alien priory, and, in 1359, bestowed on the Warden and Fellows of New College, Oxford, through the interest of its founder, Wyckham, Bishop of Winchester: it is still a peculiar jurisdiction belonging to that College, and as such, exempt from episcopal visitation. Within the Church are several elaborate monuments, and many inscriptions to the memory of respectable families who have resided in this parish, which is supposed to be the largest in the county, its circumference being estimated at fifty-two miles. Among them, is an elegant tomb to the memory of SIR JOHN COMYNS, Knt. Chief Baron of the Exchequer, who erected the large mansion called HYGHLANDS, near Chelmsford, now occupied by Cornelius H. Kortright, Esq. On the tomb is a bust of this able and upright Judge, in his Baron's robes; and engraven on an entablature of grey marble his character, which concludes with the following beautiful extract from Horace:

———Cui pudor et Justitiæ soror
Incorrupta fides, nudaque veritas,
Quando ullum invenient parum.*

In the reign of Edward the Confessor, the extensive Lordship of Writtle, from which at different times no fewer than nine manors

R 4

have

* These lines have been thus translated by Francis:

Oh, where shall Faith, of soul sincere;
Of Justice pure, the sister fair;
And Modesty, unspotted maid;
And Truth, in artless guise array'd;
Among the race of human kind,
A match for this Justinian find?

have been separated, was held by Earl Harold, on whose defeat and death it fell into the hands of the Conqueror, who retained a very considerable part at the time of the Domesday Survey. In the reign of Henry the Third, the manor of Writtle was in the possession of Philip de Albene, and afterwards of William Long-Espée, Earl of Salisbury. From him it passed, through various families, to Thomas of Woodstock, Duke of Gloucester, and High Constable of England; after whose untimely fate, in 1397, it was obtained by Thomas, Earl of Stafford, whose descendants continued possessors till the decapitation of Edward, Earl of Stafford, in the year 1521, when all the family estates fell to the Crown. Queen Mary, in 1553, granted Writtle, with other manors, to Sir William Petre, Knt. whose issue still enjoy it. The number of inhabitants in this parish, as returned under the Population Act, was 1599; the number of houses 286.

Writtle was the birth-place of the celebrated JOHN BASTWICK, M. D. He was born in the year 1593, and educated at Emanuel College, Cambridge, but obtained his degrees at the University of Padua. Granger describes him as too intent upon the reformation of government and religion, to attend particularly to the business of his profession. However this may be, it is certain that his writings incurred the displeasure of the Star-Chamber, by whose unprincipled and infamous decision he was deprived of his ears in the pillory, and sentenced to perpetual imprisonment in St. Mary's Castle, in the Isle of Scilly. In 1640 he was released by order of Parliament, and his sufferings compensated by a grant of 5000*l.* from the estates of the Archbishop of Canterbury. He died about ten years afterwards.

In this parish, about four miles north-east from the Church, in the middle of a wood called Highwood Quarter, was formerly a *Hermitage*, founded by one Robert, a Monk, in the time of King Stephen, who granted the land, and other requisites for the undertaking. Additional benefactions were made by Henry the Second, in whose reign it became attached to St. John's Abbey, Colchester. Soon after the Dissolution, its possessions were alienated to Sir William Petre, Knt. in whose posterity they still remain.

SPRINGFIELD,

SPRINGFIELD, a small village, about one mile north-east from Chelmsford, is called, by Norden, *Campus Aquaticus*, from the number of springs rising in the neighbourhood. At the time of the Domesday Survey, nearly the whole parish was in the possession of Ralph Peverel and Robert Gernon. SPRINGFIELD LYONS, situated on a fine eminence in this parish, is the seat of the Dowager Lady Waltham. SPRINGFIELD PLACE is occupied by — Brograve, Esq.

NEW-HALL, an extensive Lordship in the parish of Boreham, was originally parcel of the possessions of Waltham Abbey; but was exchanged, in the twenty-fourth of Edward the Third, for other manors in this county, with Sir John de Shardelowe, Knt. whose brother, Sir Thomas de Shardelowe, again exchanged it, with other estates, for the manor of Bradeker, in Norfolk, then the property of Sir Henry and Thomas de Coggeshall. This family retained it till the tenth of Henry the Fifth, when it became the joint property of Sir John de Boreham, and others; but soon afterwards appears to have been possessed by Richard Alred, who held it of Margaret, Queen of Henry the Sixth. During the wars between the rival houses of York and Lancaster, it fell to the Crown, and was granted to Boteller, Earl of Ormond, a strenuous partizan of the Lancastrians, who was made prisoner at the battle of Towton, in 1460, and beheaded. It was afterwards bestowed on Thomas, his younger brother, by Henry the Seventh, who also granted permission to fortify the manor-house with walls and towers. The spacious mansion called NEW-HALL, of which a large portion is now standing, is supposed to have been built through this license. It was afterwards adorned and improved by Henry the Eighth, who obtained the Lordship in exchange, from Thomas Bollyn, (father of Queen Anne Bollyn,) Earl of Wiltshire, whose father had married the eldest daughter of Thomas, Earl of Ormond. Henry was so charmed with the situation, that he erected it into an *Honor*, and gave it the name of *Beaulieu*, making it a place of frequent residence; and here, in 1524, he kept the feast of St. George: his daughter, the Princess Mary,
also

also resided here several years. In 1573, Queen Elizabeth granted it, with other contiguous manors, to Thomas Ratcliff, Earl of Suffolk, who had rendered her essential service both in Scotland and Ireland. This nobleman dying without issue, was succeeded by his brother, whose son and heir, Robert, Earl of Sussex, sold it, about the year 1620, for 30,000*l.* to Villiers, Duke of Buckingham, who was assassinated by Felton at Portsmouth. His son George having espoused the Royal cause, was attainted by the Parliament, and his estates ordered to be sold. Soon afterwards, in April, 1651, New-Hall was purchased by Oliver Cromwell, for the sum of *five shillings*, though its annual value was then computed at 1309*l.* 12*s.* 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ *d.*

Cromwell retained possession but a short period; for being more pleased with the situation of Hampton Court, he gave a sum of money, and New-Hall, in exchange for it. The latter was next purchased by three Merchants of London for 18,000*l.* but, after the Restoration, it became the property of Monk, Duke of Albemarle, who lived here for some time in great splendor. Christopher, his son and heir, married Elizabeth, grand-daughter to William Cavendish, Earl of Newcastle, who, on her husband's death, succeeded to this estate: this lady, in 1691, was again married, to Ralph, Duke of Montague; after which New-Hall was deserted, and became ruinous. Before the decease of her Grace, who died in 1734, the reversion of this Lordship was purchased by Benjamin Hoare, Esq. Three years afterwards, the mansion of New-Hall, with the gardens and park, was sold by this gentleman to John Olmuis, Esq. afterwards Baron Waltham, who pulled down a very considerable portion of the building; some valuable marbles, and other materials, having been previously removed by Mr. Hoare, to a new and handsome mansion, erected for himself, at some distance on the road to Colchester. NEW-HALL has since been purchased by some opulent Roman Catholics, and is occupied by English Nuns, who were driven from Liege during the French Revolution, and here direct the education of about eighty Catholic young ladies. This building, in its most flourishing state, was one of the largest in the kingdom, and consisted of two quadrangles,

drangles, inclosing large courts. In the part now standing is the *Great Hall*, a spacious and grand apartment, measuring ninety-six feet in length, fifty wide, and forty high. This has been lately converted into a Chapel, and laid out in a very judicious manner. On the east side are the arms of Henry the Eighth, finely wrought in free-stone: the ground-work is sculptured with delicate foliage; beneath the arms is the following inscription, supported by a lion and a hawk:

HENRICUS REX DECAUS. REX INCLIT. ARMIS
MAGNANIMUS STRAITE HOC DIPAS CORCORIAM.*

The whole is inclosed in a frame of stone; the outside embellished with military instruments and trophies. Over the porch at the entrance is the arms of Queen Elizabeth, with these inscriptions:

Viva Elizabetha.

En terra la piu savia Regina, en cielo la piu lucente stella:
Virgine magnanima dotta divina legiadra honesta et bella.

In the splendid Chapel belonging to this mansion, which was taken down between fifty and sixty years ago, was first erected the magnificent painted window now in St. Margaret's Chapel, Westminster.

BOREHAM, now a pleasant village, is, from its name, supposed, by Morant, to have been a market-town in the Saxon times. At the period of the Domesday Survey, the whole manor was held by Eustace, Earl of Bologne, Suene, of Essex, and William de Warrenne: it is now divided among various families. In the Church, in a part called the *Sussex Chapel*, from its having been built at the expence of Sir Thomas Radcliffe, afterwards Earl of Sussex, who, with his father, grand-father, and nine other persons of this noble family, lies buried in the vault beneath. In the Chapel are the mutilated remains of a splendid monument, erected
by

* This inscription refers to a magnificent gate-way which formerly led into the chief Court, and from which the arms were removed into the Hall.

by Earl Thomas, to perpetuate the memory of himself and noble relatives, at an expence of nearly 300*l*. On the top are recumbent figures, in armour, of ROBERT RADCLIFF, first Earl of Sussex of that family, who died in 1542; HENRY, his son, obiit 1556; and THOMAS, his grandson, the builder of the Chapel, who died in 1583. The bodies of the two former, with those of their ladies, were removed hither from the Church of St. Lawrence Pountney in London, in pursuance of the will of Earl Thomas. Three long inscriptions, in Latin, on tablets of black marble, record the titles and conduct of these exalted personages. The leaden coffins in which the bodies are inhumed, are now bricked up at one end of the vault; several of them are cast in the human form, and inscribed with the name, &c. of the person inclosed within. In the Church-yard is a neat octagonal mausoleum for the Waltham family, built of stone and white brick: the late Lord Waltham, of New-Hall, was buried here. On the front is this inscription:

MAUSOLEUM
GENTIS WALTHAMIANÆ.
M.DCC.LXIV.

GREAT BADOW, between one and two miles south-east from Chelmsford, is an extensive village, inhabited by many respectable families, who have chosen this place of residence from the extreme pleasantness of the situation. Previous to the Conquest, it formed part of the estate of Algar, Earl of Mercia, whose eldest son, Earl Eadwine, succeeded him, and, prompted by ambition, after the death of King Harold, solicited the citizens of London to choose him for their Sovereign. Being disappointed in his hopes, he submitted to the Conqueror, on condition that the latter should give him his sister in marriage; but the crafty Norman no sooner obtained firm possession of the throne, than he treated Eadwine with contempt and insolence, and refused to perform his engagement. The Earl flew to arms, and was slain in battle, after displaying great bravery and resolution: his possessions were then seized by the King, who granted the Lordship of Badow, with other valuable estates, to the Monastery of the Holy Trinity, at Caen,

Caen, in Normandy. In the reign of Henry the First, it was again possessed by the Crown, and about that period became the property of the Earls of Gloucester: it has since been vested in many noble families; but is now, we believe, in the possession of the Houblon family. In the Church were formerly two chantries of some value. According to the late enumeration, this parish contains 261 houses, and 1445 inhabitants.

In the Church of LITTLE BADOW is a costly monument, erected to the memory of SIR HENRY MILDMAV, Knight, of Grace's, in this parish, who died in October, 1639. The Knight is represented in armour, reclining on a pillow under a kind of dome, supported by pillars of black marble: at the foot are two female figures, kneeling; one represents an elderly lady, arrayed in a hood and scarf; the other, a young one, superbly dressed in the habit of the times. A Latin inscription on an oval tablet, mentions Sir Henry as a soldier in the Irish wars, and that he received the honor of Knighthood in the field. In recesses in the south wall of the centre aisle are the carved figures of two females, whom tradition represents as sisters, and the founders of the Church. In a letter now in our possession, from the late Joseph Strutt, Esq. author of *Regal and Ecclesiastical Antiquities*, and other esteemed works, are the following particulars relating to these figures. "At Little Badow, we opened two graves in the wall of the Church, over which lie the effigies of two women, who, by their dress, appear to have been buried there in the thirteenth century. We found three skeletons in one, and two in the other, without any appearance of wood, coffin, or linen, or any other covering for the corpse."* Dr. Richard de Badow, who founded University Hall, in Cambridge, on the site now occupied by Clare Hall, sprung from a family which derived its name either from this or the former parish.

SANDON, a small village, deriving its name from its situation on a sandy hill, is celebrated as having been the rectory of the
learned

* Mr. Strutt adds, that he shall make, at his leisure, a little pamphlet, with engravings of the monument: this, if ever published, has not come to our hands.

learned Dr. Walton, editor of the Polyglot Bible. His first wife lies buried in the Church; where her virtues are recorded in an inscription by her husband, written partly in English, and partly in Latin. It is observed in Vancouver's Agricultural Survey of Essex, that the business of butter-making has been in a great measure relinquished in this parish, from the want of good spring water, and from a smoky taste which is communicated to the butter when the cows feed upon some particular pastures, or when they are foddered with the hay which is mown from them. This effect, which has hitherto baffled every mode of prevention, has occasioned a very general attention to be given to the suckling of calves.

DANBURY, contracted from *Danesbury*, the town or castle of the Danes, is a small village, pleasantly situated within and near the area of an ancient *Encampment*, about 680 yards in circumference. The situation was well chosen; Danbury Hill being considered as the highest eminence in Essex, and commanding a very extensive prospect of the surrounding country. On the south side the glacis is still nearly thirty feet deep; and the lines may be traced to a considerable distance on the other sides. Danbury, in the time of Edward the Confessor, was held by Arling, a Saxon; but at the compilation of the Domesday Book, it was the property of Geffery de Mandeville. Soon afterwards, the chief portion came to the family of De Sancto Claro, or St. Clere, who retained it, at least, till the reign of Edward the First, in whose time William de St. Clere was Sheriff of Essex, and had a park at Danbury. The estate held by this family is still called St. Clere's manor. From them it passed successively to the *Veres*, Earls of Oxford; to the *Greys*, of Wilton, (from whom, for a few years, it went to Sir Gerard Braybrooke, who married one of the daughters of Lord Reginald de Grey;) and to the Lords *D'Arcies*. Afterwards reverting to the Crown, it was granted, by Edward the Sixth, to William Parr, Marquis of Northampton, who alienated it to Sir Walter Mildmay, Knight, by whom the manor-house, called DANBURY PLACE, now the seat of L. D. Ffytche, Esq. was erected at about half a mile from the Church.

The

The *Church* stands on the summit of the Hill, within the area of the encampment. This exposed situation has occasioned it to be several times damaged by tempestuous weather, and particularly in May, 1402, when the body, and part of the chancel, were destroyed. In February, 1749-50, also, the spire was set on fire by lightning, and consumed twenty feet downwards. The east end of the north aisle is inclosed by a partition, within which, under arches formed in the wall, are the effigies of two cross-legged Knights, curiously carved in wood, and in good preservation. A similar effigy was formerly placed beneath a like arch in the south aisle; but when this part was rebuilt, in the year 1776, the figure was removed into the north aisle, where it yet remains. It has been questioned whether these figures were intended to represent the *St. Cleres*, or the *D'Arcies*; but, as the arches under which they lie, are apparently coeval with the Church, a doubt can scarcely remain of their having belonged to the former, whose arms appear emblazoned in several small compartments of the antique wainscot ceiling of the chancel. The feet of each of the figures are supported by a lion; but each lion, as well as Knight, is in a different position. One of the Knights is in a praying attitude, with his sword sheathed; another is in the act of drawing his sword; and the third, of returning his sword to the scabbard.* In October, 1779, as some workmen were digging a grave just beneath one of the arches in the north wall, they discovered a leaden coffin, about thirty inches from the surface of the pavement. This was opened a few days afterwards, through the influence of Mr. T. White, who supposed that it might contain "the body of the Knight Templar represented by the effigy" in the arch above; and who, some years afterwards, sent some particulars of the discovery to the *Gentleman's Magazine*, Vol. 59. p. 337. from which the following is an extract.

"On raising the lead coffin, there was discovered an elm coffin inclosed, about one-fourth of an inch thick, very firm and entire.
On

* These figures have been engraved for Gough's *Sepulchral Monuments*, Vol. I. p. VII. p. 32.

On removing the lid of this coffin, it was found to enclose a shell about three quarters of an inch thick, which was covered with a thick cement, of a dark olive colour, and of a resinous nature. The lid of this shell being carefully taken off, we were presented with a view of the body, lying in a liquor, or pickle, somewhat resembling mushroom catchup, but paler, and of a thicker consistence. The taste was aromatic, though not very pungent, partaking of the flavour of catchup, and of the pickle of Spanish olives. The body was tolerably perfect, no part appearing decayed, but the throat, and part of one arm: the flesh every where, except on the face and throat, appeared exceedingly white and firm. The face and throat were of a dark colour, approaching to black: the throat was much lacerated. The body was covered with a kind of shirt of linen, not unlike Irish cloth, of superior fineness: a narrow, rude antique lace was affixed to the bosom of the shirt; the stitches were very evident, and attached very strongly. The linen adhered rather closely to the body; but on raising it from the breast, to examine the state of the skin more minutely, a considerable piece was torn off, with part of the lace on it.

“ The coffin not being half full of the pickle, the face, breast, and belly, were of course not covered with it. The inside of the body seemed to be filled with some substance, which rendered it very hard. There was no hair on the head; nor do I remember any in the liquor; though feathers, flowers, and herbs, in abundance, were floating; the leaves and stalks of which appeared quite perfect, but totally discolored. The coffin was not placed in a position exactly horizontal, the feet being at least three inches lower than the head. The pillow which supported the head, in process of time, decayed, and the head fell back, lacerating the throat and neck, which, with the face, appeared to have been discolored from the decay of the cloth, or substance, which covered them. The jaws, when the coffin was first opened, were closed, but on being somewhat rudely touched, expanded; owing, as was supposed, to the breaking of some bandage that bound them together. When the jaws were opened, they exhibited a set of teeth perfectly white; which was likewise the colour of the palate, and

all the inside of the mouth. The limbs were of excellent symmetry: the general appearance of the whole body conveyed the idea of hearty youth, not in the least emaciated by sickness. The length of the corpse very little exceeded five feet, though the shell that inclosed it was five feet six inches within. When the parishioners, and others, had satisfied their curiosity, the shell, and wooden coffin, were fastened down; the leaden coffin was again soldered; and the whole left, as nearly as circumstances would admit, *in statu quo*."

In Mr. Strutt's letter, before mentioned, and which is dated August the sixth, 1789, are some particulars that render it very doubtful whether the remains thus inspected were *really* belonging to one of the cross-legged effigies, as supposed. "We dug at Danbury," says this gentleman, "and found a skeleton of the hero who was buried in the tomb, and whose effigies was the *cover* of it." It had been interred *in the same manner* as those at Little Badow; that is, without any appearance of wooden coffin, or linen, or any other covering. "I am now convinced," he continues, "that the mode of burying in pickle, is not so old as the time of the Knights Templars. The body found in pickle ten years ago, was nothing less than one of these old warriors: it lay at some distance from the wall, and was covered with a large flat stone, on which was a *cross fleury*; and formerly an inscription in brass, not unlikely the following, mentioned by Weever: *Hic jacet Geraldus quondam filius et Heres Gerardi Braybroke Militis qui obiit XXIX Marcii M.CCCC.XXII*. The body had every appearance of youth, and was little more than five feet high; but being probably the son and heir of the above knight, was buried in this expensive manner."

On the west side of the road leading from Danbury to Woodham Ferry, are the ruins of BYCKNACRE PRIORY, founded for Black Canons by Maurice Fitz-Geffery, Sheriff of Essex in the reign of Henry the Second, who considerably increased the endowments, and granted the site of a Hermitage which previously stood here, to the Canons. In the reign of Henry the Seventh, the possessions of this house had been so much lessened by neglect

and inattention, that it was almost abandoned; and, on the petition of the Prior and Monks of Elsing Spittle, London, was granted by the King to that Hospital. After the Dissolution, the manor of Bycknacre, with the site of the Priory, was given by Henry the Eighth to Henry Polsted, who, eleven years afterwards, in 1548, sold it to Sir Walter Mildmay; of whose grandson it was purchased by George Barrington, Esq. of Little Badow, and is still possessed by his descendants.

MALDEN,

AN ancient and populous borough and market-town, situated on the acclivity of an eminence south-west from the estuary of the Blackwater, or river *Idumanum*, has been frequently assigned as the Roman *Camulodunum*; but on very insufficient evidence, as neither its local situation, nor the antiquities discovered here, will warrant its being referred to that people. Its antiquities, indeed, with the exception of an entrenchment formed by Edward the Elder, are confined to two Roman Coins; one of Vespasian, with the legend SALVS AVGVSTI; the other, a gold one, in fine preservation, of Nero and Agrippina, with the legend NERO CLAVD. DIVI F. CÆS. AVG. GERM. IMP. TR. P. COS. On the reverse, the Emperor and his mother seated in a car drawn by elephants: on an ensign, carried by Agrippina, is the inscription AGRIP. AVG. DIVI. CLAVD. NERONIS CÆS. MATER. above EX S. C.*

The earliest mention of Malden by historians refers to the year 913, when Edward the Elder encamped here to impede the progress of the Danes, while a fortification was constructing at Witham. In 920, he again encamped at Malden, and, according to Marianus, built a Castle here; but as no traces of this structure can be found, it seems probable, that our author alludes to the

* This coin is regarded with so much veneration, that Morant, our Historian, observes, it is always consigned to the care of one of the Bailiffs of Malden for the time being.

the entrenchment or fort above mentioned, which lies on the west side of the town, and apparently inclosed about twenty-four acres: it appears to have been of an oblong form: three sides of the rampart can yet be traced; the other is defaced by buildings. Its strength was probably considerable, as in 921, a great army of Danes are said to have besieged it without effect. In the year 993, it was again attacked by the Danish forces, commanded by Unlaf, and the forces of Earl Byrhtnoth, who advanced to relieve it, being defeated, and the Earl himself slain, was compelled to admit the Conqueror. In the Domesday Survey, Malden is styled a half hundred; and had then 180 houses and a hall, held by the Burgesses of the King, who had also a house here in his own possession.

When Malden was constituted a borough is unknown. Its first charter appears to have been granted by Henry the Second, at the request of William de Mandeville, Earl of Essex. Among the privileges secured to the Burgesses by this Charter, was an exemption from all foreign service, except the finding *one ship* occasionally, for the King's use, for forty days at their own expence. By another charter, granted by Queen Mary, in the year 1553, the borough was incorporated, and its government vested in two Bailiffs, to be chosen annually, six Aldermen, eighteen Capital Burgesses, &c. The right of returning the Members to Parliament is confined to those who obtain their freedom by birth, marriage, or servitude: the number of voters is about 200. The first return was made in the year 1329. The custom of Borough-English, by which the *youngest* son succeeds to the burgage-tenement on the death of his father, still prevails here.

This town consists of one principal street, extending nearly a mile east and west; a cross-street of considerable length, and several smaller avenues and back lanes. The descent from the upper part to the river is very steep: many of the houses are good, having been rebuilt within the last forty or fifty years. The import trade is considerable; and consists of coal, iron, deal, corn, &c. At spring tides, the river will bring up vessels that draw eight feet water; but the coals are brought to the town in lighters.

The number of houses, as returned in 1801, was 454: of inhabitants 2358.

Malden had formerly three parishes, but the rectories of two of them have long been consolidated. The principal Church, dedicated to *All Saints*, is an ancient and spacious edifice, with a square tower, terminated by a spire in the form of an equilateral triangle. In the south, or D'Arcy's aisle, were three chantries, founded in the reign of Henry the Sixth, by Robert D'Arcy, Esq. of Danbury: several of whose family were buried here. On a stone of white marble, in the chancel, is a Latin epitaph to this effect:

The deposit of JOHN VERNON, Gent. Turkey Merchant, who hath often crossed the seas, tempted thereto not so much by the love of gain, as an ardent desire of beholding the wonderful works of God in the deep. He boasts of this sepulchral stone, as not the least reward of his labors, it being discovered among the ruins of Smyrna: he also brought to light some choice ancient manuscripts, monuments of that antique city; with these he enriched his native country. He is now safely arrived at the haven of rest. He died January 28th, 1653, aged 84.

Many other commemorative inscriptions are in this Church; and in the Church-Yard is a mural monument to the memory of Dr. ISAAC DORISLAUS, of whom Salmon observes, from an unknown writer, that he took his degree of Doctor at Leyden, and was sent for to Cambridge by Lord Brooke to read History; but being thought to speak too freely in favor of the people, was forced to leave the University, and afterwards settled at Malden. Near this Church is the *Town-Hall*, a large ancient brick building, but not otherwise remarkable.

St. Mary's Church is a spacious pile, situated in the lower part of the town, and recorded to have been founded by Ingelric, a Saxon nobleman, before the year 1056: the tower is a massy structure, and, with part of the Church, was rebuilt in the reign of Charles the First. *St. Peter's*, the parish united to All Saints, had formerly a Church, of which the tower only is now standing; attached to it, is a building, erected by Dr. THOMAS PLUME,

Archdeacon of Rochester, for a *Grammar School*, and *Library*. This gentleman was born at Malden in the year 1630, and in the latter part of his life became a great benefactor to his native town, as well as to several other places. The books contained in the Library were his own collection, and are ordered to be lent out on the value being left in the hands of the Librarian. He also appropriated the rents of a farm at Iltny, to keep the School and Library in repair. Besides these charities, he gave 200*l.* to build a Workhouse for the poor; and about 1000*l.* more, to establish the trade of weaving sack-cloth to employ them. The *Plumian* Professorship of Astronomy and Experimental Philosophy at Cambridge, was founded through a bequest of 1902*l.* left by him for the purpose. He died in the year 1704. At the west end of the town is an extensive range of *Barracks*, lately erected. Richard de Gravesend, Bishop of London, about the year 1291, founded a small Priory for Carmelites, or White Monks, in Malden, which continued till the Dissolution. Several eminent scholars are mentioned by Bale, and others, as having been inmates of this monastery.

In the forty-seventh volume of the Philosophical Transactions, is an account of EDWARD BRIGHT, a shopkeeper of this town, who was so enormously fat, that his size and weight are almost unparalleled in the history of the human race. At the age of twelve years and a half, he weighed 144 pounds: increasing in bulk as he grew up, in seven years more he weighed 336 pounds. He went on increasing, and probably in pretty nearly the same proportion; for the last time he was weighed, which was about thirteen months before he died, his weight was 584 pounds: at the time of his death, he was manifestly grown bigger since his last weighing; so that, on a fair estimation, his weight must then have been 616 pounds. He measured five feet nine inches and a half in height. His body round the chest, was five feet six inches; and round the belly, six feet eleven inches: his arm in the middle measured two feet two inches, and his leg two feet eight inches. He died at the age of twenty-nine, in the year 1750; after his death, seven men were buttoned in his waistcoat.

Till a year or two before his death, he was comparatively an active man; but afterwards his extreme corpulency so overpowered his strength, that life seemed burthensome. He left a widow pregnant of her sixth child: his coffin was so enormously large, that an opening was obliged to be cut in the wall and stair-case, to let it down into the shop; and it was carried to the grave upon a carriage.

BILEIGH ABBEY, nearly one mile west from Malden, was founded, in the year 1180, by Robert de Mantell, for Monks of the Premonstratensian order. Their possessions were afterwards increased by various benefactions, the annual value of which, at the Dissolution, according to Speed, amounted to 196l. 6s. 5d. and nine Canons were then maintained on the foundation. Some parts of the monastic buildings are now standing, but appropriated very differently from their original use, being connected with a small farm; and the Chapel, which is the most perfect remain, employed as a hog-stye, &c. This was a handsome though small apartment; its length being only thirty-six feet, and its breadth eighteen. The roof is formed with very fine-grained lime-stone, and has groined arches, supported by three slender Purbeck columns. Here Henry Bouchier, Earl of Essex, who died April the fourth, 1483, was buried; together with Isabel, his lady, and the Lady Mary Nevill, of Essex.

HEYBRIDGE, a small village, opposite Malden on the north side of the Blackwater river, is thought to have obtained its present name from an ancient bridge of five arches, beneath which the main stream is said to have formerly run, though it now flows at some distance, through Full Bridge. Its original appellation appears to have been *Tidwalditune*, and by that name this and twelve other lordships were given by King Athelstan to the Cathedral Church of St. Paul: it still belongs to the Dean and Chapter of that Cathedral, together with the ancient manor-house, called HEYBRIDGE HALL. Between this place and Malden, is a raised Causeway, which existed before the time of Edward the Second, who ordered it to be surveyed in the year 1324.

LANGFORD

LANGFORD HALL, a modern white house, standing in a finely wooded park, is the seat of Nicholas Westcombe, Esq. whose family obtained it in the year 1680, by purchase from the nephew of the celebrated physician, Dr. William Harvey. The village of LANGFORD derived its name from the *Long-Ford* here in the Saxon times, when the waters of the Blackwater spread over a much wider surface than at present. The meadow grounds bordering the river in this neighbourhood are extremely fertile.

In the parish of Great Totham, on the north side of Blackwater Bay, are a considerable number of defaced tumuli, called the BOROUGH HILLS; probably a corruption from *Barrow Hills*. These are supposed to have been raised indiscriminately over the bodies of the Danes and Saxons that fell during the battles fought on the invasions of the former, who frequently landed on this coast.

TOLLESHUNT-MAGNA, a corruption from *Tolleshunt-Malger*, is one of three adjoining parishes of the name of Tolleshunt, but distinguished from each other by additions derived from the names of their former owners. The manor of Tolleshunt-Malger, called also Tolleshunt-Beckingham, from the Beckinghams, to whom it was granted by Henry the Eighth, was settled in the year 1711, by Dr. Daniel Williams, who had purchased the reversion, on a Society in New England, for the purpose of promoting the conversion of poor Indians. An ancient brick gateway belonging to the manor-house is yet standing, having four embattled turrets.

In the parishes of *Tolleshunt D'Arcy* and *Tollesbury*, "a considerable improvement has lately been made in the rough marshes by removing the ant-hills. The operation is performed by chopping round the hills with a heavy adze, or grubbing-hoe, the cutting edge of which is circular, and ten and a half inches wide; the depth of the blade, including its neck to the eye, or where the handle is fastened, is eight and a half inches: from half a dozen to half a score strokes will belt the largest hill, and loosen it from its seat, which is always left lower than the adjoining surface of the marsh, to receive and hold the rain-water, by means of which,

the ants are more completely destroyed. Boys follow the grubber, and carry the ant-hills into the rills, and low places in the marsh; and thus a considerable increase of surface is obtained, that in the course of a year becomes profitable by getting coated with grass, and at an expence which seldom exceeds fifteen shillings per acre.*

About three miles north from Malden is WICKHAM-BISHOPS, so called from the Bishops of London, to whose See it has belonged from time immemorial, having had a residence and park here: the latter was inclosed, in the year 1375, by Bishop Courteney, who obtained a license from Edward the Third. The ancient manor-house has been pulled down many years. The Church is nearly a mile west from the village.

HATFIELD PEVEREL, with thirty-four other lordships in this county, was given by William the Conqueror to Ranulph Peverel, a Norman soldier, who had attended him to England, and afterwards married Ingelrica, the daughter of a Saxon Nobleman, a beautiful woman, who had borne a son to the Conqueror. In the time of William Rufus, Ingelrica, to atone for the errors of her past life, founded a College here for secular Canons, and dedicated it to St. Mary Magdalen. William Peverel, her legitimate son, converted the College into a Monastery for Benedictines, and greatly increased the endowments, besides giving his own mansion to the Monks for a residence. The annual revenues of this Priory, at the Dissolution, were estimated at 83l. 19s. 7d. It was soon afterwards granted, with other demesnes, to Giles Leigh, Esq. by the marriage of whose two daughters and co-heiresses, with the *Alleyns*, they passed into that family, whose descendants continued possessors till about the year 1768, when they were sold under an order of chancery to Peter Wright, Esq. This gentleman pulled down the mansion which adjoined the Church, and erected a more elegant house on an eminence at a little distance. This building is called the PRIORY; but the only remains of the original foundation is the *Church*, now made parochial.

* Vancouver's Agriculture of Essex.

chial. An ancient statue in one of the windows is mentioned by Weever, as the image of Ingelrica, the foundress. Several inscriptions to the memory of the Alleyns are preserved in the chancel.

TERLING PLACE, the seat and manor of Lieutenant Colonel J. H. Strutt, was once appendant to Ely Cathedral, but dis-severed from that See by William the Conqueror, who gave it to Ranulph Peverel. In the year 1269, it was held under the Bohuns, Earls of Hereford and Essex, by the Bishop of Norwich, who had a palace and park here, and also a Chapel, which possessed the privilege of sanctuary; and is recorded as having sheltered the celebrated Hubert de Bergh from the indignation of Henry the Third. Henry the Eighth had also a residence here, as appears from the date of several acts of that Monarch; and in particular from the patent creating Sir Edward Seymour, Viscount Beauchamp, dated 1536, in which year the Monarch gave this manor to the Lord Chancellor Audley. From him it has passed through various families to the *Strutts*, who became possessed by purchase about the middle of the last century.

WITHAM

Is generally reputed to have been built by Edward the Elder; though it is probable that it was only restored by that Sovereign, at least as far as regards the part situated on *Cheping Hill*, round the Church, which stands about half a mile north-west from the other part of the town. On this eminence, "near the south side of the Church, are considerable remains of a circular camp, defended by a double vallum, almost levelled within on the south side, but very plain on the south-west, where the present road runs along the outer bank; the river defending it on the west side, there the works are lower: a road runs through it from north to south." *From this camp, and the considerable quantity of Roman bricks worked up in the body and tower of the Church, Mr. Gough seems inclined to consider Witham as the *Canonium*

of

* Gough's Additions to the Britannia, Vol. II. p. 56.

of Antoninus; and this opinion is greatly strengthened by the circumstance noticed by Morant, of two Roman coins, of the Emperors Valens and Gratian, having been found in levelling the fortifications.

The manor of Witham was anciently possessed by Earl Harold; and afterwards by Eustace, Earl of Boulogne, who married Goda, sister to Edward the Confessor. King Stephen bestowed it on the Knights Templars; from whom it passed to the Knights-Hospitalers of St. John of Jerusalem, who retained it till the general suppression. In the time of Earl Eustace, it was called the Honour of Bonanda; and was one of the four ancient *Honours* that existed in this kingdom. The privilege of holding a market is reported to have been *first* granted to Witham by Richard the First; but this is probably a mistake, as it was then held on *Cheping Hill*, which evidently derives its name from merchandize being sold there, and carries us at once to the Saxon times. By an enquiry made in the reign of Henry the Third, it appears, that one Geffrey de Lyston held land in Witham, by the service of carrying flour to *make wafers* on the King's birth-day, whenever his Majesty was in the kingdom.

In the Church, among other monuments, is a large tomb, erected in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, to the memory of JUDGE HEATHCOTE and his Lady, whose effigies appear on it. The chief trade of Witham arises from the passage of travellers and carriers; and in the summer season, from the company who attend to drink the chalybeate waters at Witham Spa,* about three quarters of a mile from the town. The number of inhabitants in this parish, as returned under the Population Act, was 2186; the number of houses 401. Many of the latter are well-built, and inhabited by respectable families. Near the entrance of the town from Colchester is a handsome mansion, now the seat of Thomas Kynaston, Esq. but formerly belonging to the late Earl

* An Essay on the virtues of this spring was published in the year 1737, by Dr. Taverner, a Physician of this place, and great expectations were then entertained of the town becoming very flourishing from the influx of visitors.

Earl Abercorn, who lodged and entertained her present Majesty here, on her arrival in this country from Germany.

FAULKBOURNE HALL, between one and two miles north-west from Witham Church, is the seat of Colonel John Bullock, one of the members for the county, whose family have possessed it from the year 1637, when it was purchased of the *Fortescues*, by Sir Edward Bullock, of Lofts, in this county. The mansion is a stately and spacious building, of different eras; part of it displays a tower gateway of curious architecture, and is supposed to have been erected by the Earl of Gloucester, about the time of King Stephen, or Henry the Second. Various improvements have been made in the house and grounds by the present family. Several of the apartments contain good paintings by Vandyck, Vandewelde, Michael Angelo, Sir William Beechey, Sartorius, and other masters. Many fine springs rise in the grounds, which are extensive and pleasant: here also is a *Cedar Tree*, conjectured to be the largest in the kingdom, its girth at six inches from the ground, being eighteen feet, nine inches; at ten feet from the ground, fourteen feet, nine inches: its height to the first branch, is nineteen feet. A *Roman Villa* is supposed to have stood at FAULKBOURNE, from a silver coin of Domitian, mentioned by Bishop Gibson to have been found under an old wall, partly composed of Roman bricks. The manor of Faulkbourne was given by William the Conqueror to his nephew, Hamo Dapifer, whose niece and coheiress, Mabil, was married to Robert, Earl of Gloucester, natural son to Henry the First. From him it passed through various families to the Fortescues; of whom Sir John was Lord Chancellor of England in the reign of Henry the Sixth.

At CRESSING, called *Cressing Temple*, from the Knights Templars, was a Preceptory of that order, to which the manor was granted by King Stephen about the year 1150. In the Church is a very ancient monument to the Nevill family.

RIVEN-HALL was, previous to the Conquest, part of the possessions of Queen Editha. It afterwards came to Eustace, Earl of Boulogne, the heiress of whose family having married

King Stephen, it fell to the Crown. In the thirteenth of King John, Riven-Hall was held by Ralph de Roffa, whose sister and heiress married Robert de Scalariis: the descendants of this marriage were the celebrated Lords Scales, the last of whom, in 1460, fell a sacrifice to his adherence to the House of Lancaster. His daughter married Antony Widville, Earl Rivers, who bequeathed this manor to Sir Jeffry Gate, in whose family it continued till the year 1553, when Sir John Gate was beheaded for having espoused the cause of the Lady Jane Grey. It was then seized by the Crown, and has since passed through various possessors to the *Westerns*, who are now seated at Fœlix Hall.

FELIX HALL, the seat of Charles Callis Western, Esq. one of the representatives for Malden, is a neat modern building, standing in a small park, pleasantly situated about one mile from Kelvedon. The interior of the house is elegantly fitted up; and the gardens are laid out with much judgment.

The Church of INWORTH has a small ancient porch on the south side, remarked as being built with a mixture of flints and Roman bricks: on the front is a brick cross, and within the porch a very antique brick lozenge. In the inside of the Church are some remains of a kind of mosaic pavement; and in a recess of the south wall, near the altar, the piscina formerly used by the Romish priests at the solemnities of the Eucharist.

BRAXTED LODGE, late the seat of Peter Du Cane, Esq. is a handsome mansion, pleasantly situated on a gentle eminence, near the centre of a small park, and commanding some agreeable prospects of the surrounding country.

In the parish of Brackstead, at TIPTREE, was an ancient Priory for Black Canons, founded before the time of Edward the First, in the ninth of whose reign the Prior had license to impark sixty acres of land. This continued till the year 1523, when Cardinal Wolsey obtained a grant of its possessions to increase the endowments of his two Colleges. Its annual revenues were then valued at 22l. 10s. 4d.

LAYER-MARNEY derives the latter part of its name from the noble family of Marney, who held the manor from the time
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of Henry the Second to that of Henry the Eighth. William de Marney obtained license from Henry the Third to inclose a park here, "within the precincts of the forest of Essex;" he had also liberty of free warren within his manor. Sir Henry Marney was a man of great talents and bravery: he was Privy Counsellor to Henry the Seventh, and Henry the Eighth; Knight of the Garter, and Keeper of the Privy Seal: in 1523, he was also created Lord Marney, but died the following year, and was buried in the chancel of Layer-Marney Church. This nobleman is supposed to have erected the extensive mansion called Layer-Marney Hall, of which the grand entrance tower, and great part of the south side, is yet standing. John, second Lord Marney, died in April, 1525, leaving two daughters, who sold this manor to Sir Brian Tuke, Secretary to Cardinal Wolsey, of whose descendants it was purchased by Sir Samuel Tryon, Bart. It has since become the property of the *Corsellis*, a family naturalized in the reign of Charles the Second.

LAYER-MARNEY HALL was originally a very large quadrangular building, inclosing a spacious court: the chief entrance to which was the tower gateway that now remains. This is built of brick, and consists of a lofty centre of two stories, flanked at each angle by an octagonal tower rising from the ground to some height above the centre. Each of the octagonal towers contains eight floors, lighted by small pointed windows: the centre stories are lighted by two large square windows. The summit, chimnies, and divisions between the windows, are curiously ornamented with sculptured mouldings, of various patterns. Attached to the east and west sides of this gateway are considerable remains of the old mansion, now converted into a farm-house, and offices. The tower is situated on high ground, and from the uppermost stories commands a very extensive tract of country, particularly to the south and west.

About fifty yards distant is Layer Marney Church, an ancient brick building, in which William de Marney, by license, dated in the year 1330, founded a College for a Warden and two Chaplains; the latter to officiate in the two chantries, which he had
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also founded here, and endowed with the advowson, and thirty acres of land. The east end of the north aisle, called the Chapel, was began by Henry, first Lord Marney, who established two priests here, to pray for the souls of his wives, himself, and ancestors. Several fine old monuments, with effigies of the Lords Marney, and others of this family, are contained in the Church. In the chancel is also a monument to the memory of Nicholas Corsellis, Esq. one of the first of that name who possessed this manor, having an inscription, in which he is falsely said to have taught "the English the admirable art of Printing."

Near the Church, in the parish of GREAT BIRCH, is the artificial mount, or keep of a *Castle*, recorded as having been fortified against Henry the Third, by Sir Ralph Gernon, who then held the manor; but supposed, by Morant, to be a "continuation of the stupendous Roman works on Lexden Heath," which may be traced still further than this spot. The mount is surrounded by a trench.

COPFORD HALL, the seat of J. H. Harrison, Esq. is a handsome mansion, said to have been some time the residence of Bonner, Bishop of London, to which See the manor belonged previous to the Conquest. The grounds are pleasant, and ornamented with several pieces of water.

COLCHESTER.

THE early history of Colchester, the principal town in Essex, has occasioned much disputation among antiquaries. Its remote origin is, however, undoubted; and when the various authorities are attentively examined, and compared with the actual situation of the town, and the numerous ancient memorials that have been discovered in it, not the slightest doubt can remain of its having been both a British and a Roman city. Urns, pavements, and coins, are almost daily brought to light by the spade or plough: every public building displays Roman materials worked up in its walls, either in a greater or less proportion; and the ramparts,
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and vast entrenchments, raised to defend it on the west and south sides, evidently testify its original grandeur and importance.

The ancient name of Colchester was *Camulodunum*, and under this appellation it occurs in Dion Cassius, who expressly mentions it as the residence of the British King Cunobiline, and the capital of the Trinobantes. That this was the undoubted site of *Camulodunum*, is demonstrated by the number of gold, silver, and brass coins that have been discovered here, having the letters CVNO, or CVNOB. on one side, for Cunobiline; and CAM. or CAMV. on the other, for *Camulodunum*.^{*} On one of these coins, mentioned by Morant,[†] as being in his own possession, are the words CVNOB . . . REX; on the reverse, a horse feeding; and below it . . . MV.

When Cæsar quitted Britain after his second expedition, Mandubratius[‡] was Sovereign of the Trinobantes, and most probably had his seat at *Camulodunum*. On his death, the vacant government came into the possession of his brother Tenuant, whose son, Cunobiline, being anxious to obtain a knowledge of Roman manners, went over to the Continent, and, after visiting the camp of Augustus, returned to Rome with that Emperor, and was publicly saluted by the appellation of Friend to the Commonwealth. During his residence in the Capitol, Cunobiline is supposed to have obtained a considerable insight into the Roman arts, the knowledge of which, on his return and accession to the throne, he endeavored to extend for the benefit of his people; and under his domination, the Britons began to advance in refinement.

On the decease of Cunobiline, about the year 42, his son Guiderius, or Togodumnus, succeeded to the government of the Trinobantes; and ambassadors were sent to Rome, to demand the arrest of some fugitive Britons, to whom the Emperor Claudius had given protection. This demand being evaded by the Emperor,

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^{*} Many of these coins are described in Camden and Morant, and others are noticed in the History of Colchester, 12mo. published in that town, in the year 1803.

[†] History of Essex, Vol. I. p. 13.

[‡] See page 243.

the payment of the tribute which Cæsar had imposed was withheld. The Romans, eagerly seizing the opportunity, commenced war, and, under the command of A. Plautius, a skilful general, defeated Guiderius, who retreated across a river; but was followed so quickly by the Romans, that he was again forced to engage with his wearied forces, and, after valiantly defending himself, was slain. Arviragus, (or Caractacus,) his brother, by a successful stratagem, saved the remnant of the British army, and had nearly effected the discomfiture of Plautius, who, in the eagerness of pursuit, lost many of his soldiers in the bogs and marshes.

“The death of Guiderius, instead of intimidating the Britons, inspired them with fresh courage; and, that they might effectually revenge his loss, by the extermination of the Roman army, new forces were raised in every province with which the Trinobantes were in league. Plautius, apprehensive of the danger that darkened around and threatened him on every side, informed the Emperor of his situation; and securing the conquests he had already made, he waited the arrival of Claudius, who, with a large army, soon landed in Britain, A. D. 44, and joining his forces with those of Claudius and Vespasian, passed the Thames. The Britons, posted on the opposite bank, resolutely sustained the onset, and bravely encountered the Romans; but finding themselves unable to maintain the contest against such a powerful foe, after considerable loss, fled into the adjacent woods.”*

Claudius pursuing his victory, proceeded to Camulodunum, of which he took possession, and established in it a colony of Roman veterans, consisting of the second, ninth, and fourteenth legions. On this occasion, it obtained the name of *Colonia*; probably as a pre-eminent memorial of its being the first Roman colony planted in this Island; and in the Itinerary of Antoninus, it is distinguished both by that appellation, and by its original one of Camulodunum. It was also called *Colonia-Camulodunum*, as appears from the money mentioned by Camden to have been struck by Claudius,

* History of Colchester, Vol. I. p. 15.

lius, with the inscription COL. CAMALODVN.* In another inscription, recorded by this author, and copied beneath, it is named *Colonia Victricensis*, from the veterans of the fourteenth legion, whose gallant conduct had occasioned them to be styled, Conquerors of Britain.

CN. MVNATIVS. M. F. PAL.
 AVRELIVS BASSVS.
 PROC. AVG.
 PRÆF. FABR. PRÆF. COH. III.
 SAGITTARIORVM . PRÆF. COH. II.
 ASTVRVM. CENSITOR. CIVIVM.
 ROMANORVM COLONIÆ.
 VICTRICENSIS.
 QVÆ. EST. IN. BRITANNIA.
 CAMALODVNI.
 CVRATOR. VIÆ. NOMENTANÆ.
 PATRONVS. EIVSDEM. MVNICIPII.
 FLAMEN. PERPETVVS. DVVMVIRALI.
 POTESTATE. ÆDILIS. DEDI-
 CATOR. IIII.

After establishing his colony, Claudius reduced the adjacent country into a Roman province; and having appointed Plautius *Proprætor*, he returned to Rome, where a magnificent triumph was decreed to him by the Senate, and anniversary games instituted in commemoration of his victory. He was also, contrary to the usual custom, *several* times saluted IMPERATOR; triumphal arches were ordered to be erected to his glory; and the surname of Britannicus was entailed upon his family. His success was equally the subject of rejoicing at Camulodunum, where a Temple was raised to his memory, and himself worshipped as the tutelar Deity of the colony.

VOL. V.

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Plautius,

* Medals also were struck in commemoration of the establishment of the Roman colony; having on one side, the effigies of Claudius, with the legend TI. CLAVD. CÆS. AVG. GER. P. M. TR. P. XII. IMP. XIIX; and on the reverse, a plough drawn by an ox and a cow yoked, driven by a man: above them, COL. CAMALODVN. AVG. Camden.

Plautius, who continued the seat of government at Camulodunum, from thence prosecuted the war against the unsubdued Britons with considerable vigor; but being recalled about the year 48, Ostorius Scapula was sent by Claudius in his stead. On his arrival in Britain, he found that various inroads had been made on the territories of the Roman allies, and immediately taking the field, put many of the natives to the sword, and dispersed the remainder. The desire of independence was not, however, destroyed; the neighbouring states again flew to arms, and having obtained the assistance of the Iceni,* a powerful force was raised against the Roman power; but the superior discipline of the Roman soldiers once more prevailed, and the Britons were defeated with great slaughter. Still the native spirit of the Islanders remained unconquered; and the Silures, and other states, headed by the gallant Caractacus, steadily opposed the progress of the Roman arms. Their bravery, determined as it was, had not its deserved success; Caractacus was defeated, and the country of the Silures reduced to Roman bondage.

Ostorius, to secure his newly-acquired territory, drew forth the chief part of the veteran legions from Camulodunum; and to this measure the destruction of that colony by the Britons, under the insulted Boudicca, or Boadicea,† is certainly to be attributed; for the Trinobantes, no longer over-awed by the immediate presence of any considerable military body, united with the Iceni, whom the oppression exercised by the Romans had again driven to arms. Similar feelings, resulting from similarity of cause, inflamed the Trinobantes, who began to consider the temple erected to Claudius as the badge of eternal servitude; and the demands made by the priests for its support, as eventually tending to the destruction of their estates. The cupidity of Catus Decianus, the Procurator, combined with the other causes of revolt, and the insurrection was so sudden and complete, that the whole foundation of the Roman power appeared to totter.

Camulodunum was the first sacrifice to British vengeance; the impending destruction is recorded by Tacitus, as having been
forerun

* See Beauties, Vol. II. p. 4.

† Ibid, p. 5.

forerun by fearful prodigies. "The image of Victory," says this historian, "without any visible cause, fell down, and turned backward, as if yielding to the enemy. Enthusiastic women foretold the approaching desolation; strange noises were heard in the court, and howlings resounded in the theatre; and an apparition of a colony destroyed, was seen in the estuary of the Thames. The sea looked bloody; and in the ebb, the effigies of human bodies were left upon the shore."* These fabled prodigies strongly mark the apprehension and alarm that prevailed among the Romans, when the Britons bent their force against the devoted colony. Their fears had not been excited upon slight grounds: fire and slaughter marked the progress of Boudicca; and Camulodunum, the seat of Roman tyranny in Britain, was overwhelmed in its own ruins, after a feeble resistance from the soldiers who remained there, and who defended themselves for two days within the temple.

On the earliest intelligence of this formidable insurrection, Suetonius Paulinus, the Roman General, hastened with his whole force from Anglesea;† but was at first unable to stem the torrent of British vengeance. London and Verulam fell successively before the assaults of the insulted Queen, and their ill-fated inhabitants were massacred without remorse or pity. At length, Suetonius, chusing an advantageous position, resolved to try the event of a battle: the Britons, rendered imprudent by success, and confident in the multitude of their numbers, advanced with rashness to the attack, and from an injudicious disposal of their force, precipitated their own defeat. So complete was the overthrow, that this is recorded as the last vigorous effort made by the Britons to recover their lost independence.

Morant, on the authority of Pliny,‡ and the evidence of the Roman coins daily discovered here, assumes, and with every appearance of probability, that Camulodunum was very soon rebuilt, after its fatal overthrow. "Great numbers of coins," he observes,

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* Annal. L. XIV. c. 32.

† See Beauties, &c. Vol. II. p. 5, *et seq.*

‡ Nat. Hist. L. XI. p. 75.

“even of Claudius himself, and of Vespasian, Titus, Domitian, and their several successors, are found in and about the place; not in heaps, pots, or large quantities together, as if they had been designedly buried, but dispersed all about, as if accidentally lost at different times: *bushels*, I may say, have been found, but chiefly in the higher parts, a certain proof that the Roman city stood there.” This argument in favor of the early rebuilding, and subsequent occupation, of Camulodunum by the Romans, is strongly corroborated by the many other antiquities of that people, that have been discovered within its precincts and neighbourhood.*

“There are more Roman remains in and about this town,” continues Morant, “than in any other part of South Britain. Immense quantities of Roman bricks and tiles are to be seen incorporated, or rather, are the chief materials in all the most ancient and public edifices. The town-walls, the Castle, and the Churches, are half built with them; and in several parts even the Roman workmanship is copied. The bricks are generally about eighteen inches long, eleven broad, and two thick; exceedingly hard, and well-baked. The *Supellex Romana* of all kinds still abound here; hardly any place being dug up, without urns, vases, and potterie of all sorts, or at least fragments of them, being discovered. Sepulchral urns, with the ashes therein, are likewise frequently found; as well as lamps, rings, intaglios, chains, &c. A remarkable *Sepulchral Urn*, in particular, was taken up here a few years ago. It was a large vessel, made of thick coarse light clay, containing twenty gallons: within was an urn of black earth, holding about two gallons, and having in it the ashes of a
Roman

* The *numerous* antiquities found at Colchester, were many centuries ago a subject of remark: the following passage occurs in Marianus. “*Civitas inter eminentissimas numeranda (Colcestria scil.) si non vetustas, conflagrationes, eluviones, denique piratarum immissiones, variæque casuum afflictationes, omnia Civitatis memorialia delevisent. Traditum tamen Helenam, quondam Imperii matrem, ex hac Civitate natam et educatam.—Conjicitur etiam ex his, quæ de terra fossiones eruerunt, tam ferrum quam lapides, tam æra signata quam ædificia sub terra inventa.*”

Roman lady, as may be supposed, because there were also with it, two bottles of clay for incense, two clay lamps, one metal vessel for ointment, and a speculum of polished metal, anciently used for a looking-glass.”*

In the year 1738, several *Urns* were discovered just within St. Botolph's Gate, together with a Roman lamp, some pieces of melted metal, and two coins of Domitian. Another urn was found in March, 1749-50, in Windmill Field, near the west end of the town, holding about a pint, and within it, two large coins of brass; one of Antoninus Pius, the other of Alexander Severus. Near it was a leaden coffin, wrought all over with lozenges, with an escalop shell in each. Within the coffin was a scull, and some remains of the vertebræ, together with two bracelets, four bodkins of jet, and one very small bracelet of wrought brass. Another urn, twenty-two inches in diameter, and two feet, four inches deep, was found, in the year 1753, in a field on the south side of the London road: in the urn was a metal speculum. A small brass statue of Mercury, and a fragment of another, supposed to have been a Venus, have also been discovered near this town.†

The *Tessellated Pavements* are generally found at between three and four feet beneath the surface of the ground. In the Church-Yard at St. Mary's at the Wall, there appears to have been several, as tesserae have been frequently dug up in many different places. In the year 1748, part of one was discovered in a garden, in the parish of the Holy Trinity; and in the earth flung up, was some fragments of a figured urn, and a coin of Constantine, the younger brother; and another fragment was found in 1763, in a garden in the High-Street, belonging to Mr. John Bernard, an apothecary. It consists of a plain border of red *tesserae*, each about an inch square, inclosing a curious ornamental centre of chain-work, and squares, composed of black, white, red and yellow dies. Of this pavement, Morant has given a representation. Many Roman *Patera*, fragments of sculp-

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tured

* History of Essex, Vol. I. p. 182.

† Ibid. 183.

tured vessels, sacrificing instruments, Roman bracelets, and other antiquities, have also been found here; and lately, in a field near the west end of the town, part of a Roman Hypocaust was discovered.

The immense quantity of Roman *medals* and *coins* that have been discovered in every part of the wide extent upon which Colchester is situated, and which receives daily augmentation from the same source, carry a full and clear conviction of its ancient magnitude, and of a long residence of the Roman people; for not only an occasional coin in the era of the Upper or Lower Roman Empire has come to light, but many a *series* from the first landing of the Romans in Britain, to the time of their final departure.

Another proof of the continued residence of the Romans at Colchester, arises from the many strong entrenchments, stretching from north to south, westward of the town. These are supposed to be the remains of the *Castra*, *Castella*, and *Præsidia*, that, according to Tacitus, were formed about the ancient *Colonia*. "To give any idea of the magnitude of these works, without an accurate survey, is hardly possible. The first rampart crosses the road a little to the eastward of Lexden, and extends southward a considerable way; and northward nearly in a strait line, to the river; thence it proceeds to the road leading to West-Bergholt, beyond which it is defaced by the cultivation of the inclosed grounds. The furthest and most considerable rampart, is nearly parallel to the first, and extends southward a considerable way towards Mersey Island; and northward to the river, where it is continued across Bergholt Heath, beyond which place, though it undoubtedly went much further, it is difficult to trace it with any certainty: in the space between these ramparts, are many others intersected at right angles; and some, apparently in other directions: also three ramparts, parallel to each other, and to the two above described. The area inclosed is very large: from the height and strength of the western rampart, it is conjectured that the camp formed herewas for the defence of Colchester by the Romans; and by the ramparts extending northward beyond the river Colne, and southward to the Mersey Island, a line was formed, which

completely secured the country adjacent from the hostile incursions of the Britons. The island itself, from its pleasantness, and convenience of situation, became the harbour, or, as it were, the resting-place of people passing to and from Rome. The several beautiful pavements, and other antiquities, yet remaining there, sufficiently indicate how much it was frequented. About a furlong to the east of Bere Church, is a very high rampart, extending in a direct line between Colchester and Mersey Island: its appearance leads to a conjecture, that it was thrown up for the easier and more expeditious travelling to and from the latter.”*

From the name *Gryme's Dyche* given to part of the above works on Lexden Heath, Mr. Gough infers them to be of Roman origin. Dr. Stukeley, he observes, who engraved six plates of them, “affirmed them a British Circus, &c. and the pit at the south-west corner, called King Coël's Kitchen, to be an Amphitheatre. This last conjecture is justified by the Dorchester Amphitheatre, and the situation of the banks, having the ditch sometimes within, and sometimes without, and running in some parts triple in a parallel direction.”†

It was a maxim of Roman policy, to entrust the government of particular districts in conquered provinces, to the descendants of the native Princes who originally possessed the sovereign power. The district of which Colonia-Camulodunum was the capital, is reported to have been among the number; but the evidences of this assertion seem too weak to merit confidence. On this head the Roman historians are silent; and the British writers who report the tradition, are not sufficiently respectable to warrant implicit belief. The tradition itself, as repeated by Morant from a short chronicle‡ in the Oath-Book of Colchester, is accompanied by particulars of such a romantic cast, that a considerable degree of doubt would be excited of its authenticity, even if corroborated

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* History of Colchester, Vol. II. p. 230, *et seq.*

† Additions to the Britannia, Vol. II. p. 59.

‡ Supposed, from the hand, to have been written about the commencement of the reign of Edward the Third.

ted by the testimony of more reputable authors. As the tale, and its collateral appendages, have not unfrequently engaged the attention of the learned, a condensed review of the circumstances may not be unacceptable.

Coël, the second of that name, a British Prince, and descended from a long line of British ancestors, is said, in the relations alluded to, to have been invested by the Romans with the government of the district of which Camulodunum was the chief station, some time about the period when the Roman empire was distracted by the numerous usurpers of the Imperial Purple, whom history has stigmatized by the appellation of the Thirty Tyrants. This was near the middle of the third century; when Coël, taking advantage of the general confusion, assumed independence, and having repaired the buildings and public works, gave to his capital the name of *Caer-Coël*. As a means of perpetuating this assumption of power, he is supposed to have become tributary to Carausius, and the other usurpers of Imperial dignity who renounced their allegiance in Britain.

Constantius Chlorus, great nephew to the Emperor Claudius, who had been invested with sovereign authority under Dioclesian and Maximian, embarked at Gessoriacum, or Boulogne, with a powerful army, to chastise the revolters, and reduce Britain to its former state of dependence. Having safely landed, he commenced the siege of *Caer-Coël*, as being the focus wherein the flame of insurrection had been elicited. The resistance opposed to his arms was so determined, that the siege was procrastinated to the unusual period of three years, and even then seemed very distant from a successful termination. In this state of affairs, Constantius beheld *Helena*, Coël's daughter, who was born in this city, and possessed the most fascinating charms of person, as well as the most uncommon endowments of mind. Struck with her beauty, and interested by her acquirements, Constantius became violently enamoured of the British Princess; and hesitated not to make peace with Coël, on condition of receiving the accomplished *Helena* as his bride.

Hitherto

Hitherto the general tradition is consistent with itself, but it now branches off in different directions: one account asserts that the marriage was immediately celebrated with suitable splendor; another, that Helena was the mistress of Constantius before she became his wife. Both, however, again unite in affirming, that *Constantine*, surnamed the Great, was the issue of this intercourse, and that he also was born at Caer-Coël. Even the poets have related the circumstance, but on this ground they may be allowed to wander, and celebrated the birth and birth-place of Constantine in terms of hyperbolism: thus Necham:

From Colchester there rose a starre,
The rayes whereof gave glorious light
Throughout the world in climates farre,
Great CONSTANTINE, Rome's Emperor bright.

Such are the outlines of this splendid fable, which, besides the romantic hue of its coloring, contradicts the evidence of the best informed writers on Roman History. According to Gibbon, the elevation of Constantine to the rank of *Cæsar*, and admittance to sovereign power, preceded his recovery of Britain from Allectus, who had assassinated Carausius, and usurped his dignity. Long previous to that event, therefore, he must have been married to Helena, from whom he was divorced on his second marriage with the daughter of Maximian, and at which period Constantine was eighteen years of age. The evidence resulting from this evident anachronism, is not the only proof of the instability of the tradition. Our eloquent historian *denies* that a British King was the father of Helena, and gives that honor to an inn-keeper; at the same time, he observes, the legality of her marriage may be defended “against those who have represented her as the concubine of Constantine.* Eutropius (x. 2.) expresses, in a few words, the real truth, and the occasion of the error, *ex obscuriori matrimonio ejus filius.*”

The real birth-place of Constantine, who was the first Roman Emperor that openly avowed the belief of Christianity, is supposed

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* Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire, Vol. II. 8vo. Edit. p. 192.

to have been at Naissus, in Dacia.* “As to Constantine being born in Britain,” says Mr. Gough, “this rests only on the testimony of British authors: all the Continental ones fixing the place of his nativity in other places, or passing it over in silence. Under these doubts, Colchester has little reason to make that boast of it, to which certainty is so essential a basis. Even all that has been advanced about King Coël, rests upon such weak authorities, that it can hardly pass for truth in any degree; otherwise, one might suspect that if such a person existed, his true name was Cælius, and that he was a Roman; for, allowing Helena to be his daughter, which is by no means clear, how should the daughter of a Briton have a Greek name?”† In proof of the uncertainty of the history of King Coël, it may be observed, that Carte, though he gives credit to the tradition of Helena being his daughter, places his kingdom between the walls of Hadrian and Antoninus; and, instead of allowing him to be Sovereign of the Trinobantes, calls him the Monarch of the Cumbrians. However

* “There are three opinions,” observes Mr. Gibbon, “with regard to the place of Constantine’s birth. 1. Our English antiquaries were used to dwell with rapture on the words of his panegyrist: ‘*Britannius illic oriendo nobilitate fecisti*.’ but this celebrated passage may be referred with as much propriety to the accession, as to the nativity, of Constantine. 2. Some of the modern Greeks have inscribed the honor of his birth to Drepanum, a town on the gulph of Nicomedia, (Cellarius, Tom. II. page 174.) which Constantine dignified with the name of Helenopolis, and Justinian adorned with many splendid buildings, (Procop. de *Ædificiis*, v. 2.) It is, indeed, probable enough, that Helena’s father kept an inn at Drepanum; and that Constantine might lodge there when he returned from a Persian Embassy, in the reign of Aurelian: but in the wandering life of a soldier, the place of his marriage, and the places where his children are born, have very little connection with each other. 3. The claim of Naissus is supported by the anonymous writer, published at the end of Ammianus, p. 910, and who, in general, copied very good materials; and it is confirmed by Julius Firmicius, (*De Astrologia*, L. 1. c. 4.) who flourished under the reign of Constantine himself. Some objections have been raised against the integrity of the text, and the application of the passage of Firmicius; but the former is established by the best MSS. and the latter is very ably defended by Lipsius, de *Magnitudine Romana*, L. 4. c. 11. et Supplementum.”

Decline, &c. of the Roman Empire.

However unworthy of credit may be the tradition which assigns Colchester as the birth-place of Constantine and his maternal parent, it was probably founded on some particular occurrences in the history of this city, wherein they were the chief actors. When Constantius came into Britain, he was accompanied by his son Constantine, and not unlikely by his wife Helena, who, though repudiated from maxims of state policy, might yet retain the chief place in his affections: or, if this idea should be supposed untenable, from the known piety of Helena, and her attachment to the Christian religion, the conjecture may still be warranted, that she accompanied the expedition from feelings of parental love. Constantius passed a considerable time in Britain previous to his decease at York, in 306; and as there is much reason to believe that Colonia was then a very flourishing and important station, a strong probability results, that he, at least, made it a place of *occasional* residence. Hence then commenced the connection between his family and this city; for such it unquestionably was, if the relation be true, that Adelfius, Bishop of *Colon*, (*Colonia*,) was present at the Council of Arles, in the year 314.* Constantius himself was a covert supporter of Christianity; and Constantine and Helena being its avowed upholders, became as such more entitled to the veneration of the inhabitants; who, among the pious labors of Helena, enumerate the foundation of St. Helen's Chapel. After her departure from Britain, Helena made a journey to Jerusalem, where she is fabled to have discovered the cross on which the Saviour was crucified; and to this circumstance the arms of Colchester, which display a cross between three coronets, are attributed.

Under the Saxon domination, Colchester, then called *Coloneceaster*, or *Colne-ceaster*, lost much of its ancient consequence; the increased importance of the Metropolis, and its more favorable situation for trade and commerce, having, in a great measure, contributed to its decay. The Danes afterwards obtained possession, and were established here, and in the adjacent country, by
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* Morant, Vol. I. p. 34.

the treaty concluded between the Great Alfred, and the Danish Chief, Gothrum. On the death of the latter, Alfred again became the nominal master of this district, but was long unable to subdue the Danish forces, who were continually receiving supplies by sea. Having at length constructed a superior navy, the Danes, deprived of their accustomed reinforcements, submitted to acknowledge him as their Sovereign; but appear to have still kept possession of Colchester, as their principal strong-hold.

On the death of Alfred, and accession of his son Edward, called the Elder, the Danes re-commenced their usual course of destruction and plunder, under the command of Ethelwald, Alfred's nephew; who intending to possess himself of the sovereignty of Britain, had assembled a large army of Danes and Normans, and landing in Essex, became master of Colchester, and the neighbouring country. Ethelwald being defeated, and slain in the following year, (905,) the Danes returned to their allegiance; but with so little sincerity, that Edward found it necessary, within a few years, to establish fortifications at Witham and Malden,* to restrain their incursions. In 921, Edward, finding the time favorable for a design he had long meditated, assembled a large army, and laid siege to Colne-ceaster, which appears to have been taken by assault, as the Danes were all put to the sword, with the exception of a very few, who leaping over the walls, fled into East-Anglia. Edward is thought to have re-peopled the desolated city by a colony of West-Saxons, and in November, 922, as appears from the Saxon Chronicle, he either rebuilt or repaired the walls. From this period to the Norman Conquest, the annals of Colchester offer nothing remarkable.

From the Domesday Book, Colchester appears to have been, at the period of its compilation, a very considerable town. The number of Burgesses, who then held houses under the King, was 276; the number of houses in their possession, 355: besides these, the Bishop of London held fourteen houses here; Eudo Dapifer, five houses, and forty acres of land; Hamo Dapifer, one house, and

* See pages 274 and 281.

and one court, or hall; and Earl Eustace, twelve houses; thirty-two other houses were held by different persons. Eudo Dapifer, who had much land in Essex, made Colchester his principal residence, and is said, in the *Monasticon*,* to have founded the Castle; though it is probable that he only rebuilt it on the site of a more ancient fortress. In the reign of Henry the Second, the fee-farm of the town was let to the Sheriff of Essex for an annual sum; but the rents being exacted with great rigor, Henry soon afterwards remitted the imposition to the Burgesses, on their engaging to pay forty-two pounds yearly.

During the commotions in the time of King John, Saher de Quincy, Earl of Winchester, besieged Colchester, (A. D. 1215,) with an army of foreigners; but hearing that the Barons assembled in London were advancing to its relief, he retired to St. Edmund's Bury. Soon afterwards, however, Saher, or some of his party, obtained possession, and having plundered the town, placed a garrison in the Castle; which was quickly invested by the King, and obliged to surrender. In the year 1218, Colchester was taken by the soldiers of Prince Louis, son of Philip the Second of France, who had been invited into England to assist the Barons; but, instead of remaining faithful to the cause they had undertaken, thought the opportunity favorable to make conquests for themselves. The Castle walls were now disgraced by the banner of France; which, however, was not suffered to wave long; for the Barons having submitted to their new Sovereign, Henry the Third, consolidated their strength, and expelled the vain-glorious Prince from the kingdom.

In the reign of Edward the Third, one Lionel de Bradenham, a powerful and avaricious man, endeavoured to possess himself of the exclusive fishery of the river Colne, which had been granted to the Burgesses by Richard the First. Being foiled in his attempt by Robert de Herle, the Lord Admiral, he beset the avenues of Colchester with a band of daring outlaws, and for three months kept the inhabitants in perpetual alarm, by endeavouring
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* Vol. I. p. 174.

to set the place on fire. He was at last compelled to desist; and purchase his forfeited life by a large sum of money. On the raising of the great naval armament to blockade Calais, Colchester furnished five ships and 170 mariners. In this reign, in the years 1348, and 1360, many of the inhabitants fell victims to the plague. In 1455 Colchester was visited by Henry the Sixth; but the occasion of his coming is not recorded, though much pageantry was displayed in consequence.

During the attempt to place the accomplished but ill-fated Jane Grey upon the throne, the inhabitants of Colchester supported the interests of the Princess Mary with so much fervor, that a very few days after the latter had obtained secure possession of the Crown, she visited the town, purposely to display her strong sense of the attachment of its inhabitants. She was received with great rejoicings, and on her departure presented with a silver cup, and 20l. in gold; a sum regarded in those times as worthy the acceptance of a Sovereign.* Her gratitude, however, was less powerful than her bigotry; and various persons, both male and female, were here committed to the flames, to expiate the crime of opposition to the religious ordinances prescribed by the existing laws. Colchester, indeed, at this period, was distinguished for the diversity of its religious sects; and the flames of persecution were lighted up by the bigoted Queen, to amalgamate the contrariety of opinions into one uniform belief. The strange and absurd tenets of the sect named the *Family of Love*, were propagated here by Christopher Vitels, the disciple of Henry Nicholas, of Delft, its original founder, and obtained many converts. Various other fanciful systems were also extremely current; and so numerous was the resort of votaries, that Colchester, to use the affected

* The value of this gift can be better appreciated by an extract from the Chamberlain of Colchester's account of the charges incurred by the purchase of various articles of food, in consequence of this visit. Item. For 38 dozen of bread, 39s. For 49 gallons of claret wine, 48s. Ten barrels of beer, —. A quarter of beef, weighing five score and ten pounds, 9s. 2d. A side of beef, weighing seven score and five pounds, 12s. 1d. A veal, 4s. Half a veal, 2s. 2d. Two muttons, 9s. 4d. &c.

affected language of the age, "became like unto a citie upon a hill, and as a candle upon a candlesticke, gave great light to all those who, for the comfort of their conscience, came to conferre there from divers places of the realme."* The accession of Elizabeth extinguished the pyre which intolerance had kindled; and several inhabitants of this town, who were awaiting their expected fate in the depths of a prison, were set at liberty. Soon afterwards many Flemings,† whom the bloody and unrelenting policy of the Duke of Alva had expelled from their native plains, sought an asylum at Colchester; and, in return for the protection afforded them, introduced the manufacture of bays and says, which rendered the town more flourishing than it had been for many years. In the autumnal progress of Elizabeth in the year 1579, that Sovereign continued here two days. At

* Confutation of the Family of Love, by W. Wilkingson, 1579.

† "A. D. 1580. The protection the Flemings had received on their first chusing Colchester for a residence, and the encouragement they had experienced in the ten years that had elapsed since their establishment, were the means of greatly increasing their numbers. The regularity and method of their proceedings, both in civil and religious matters, as well as what related to their manufactures, made them examples for imitation. They had formed themselves into a congregation, or distinct body, and every one acknowledged as a member, had his name enrolled in a register. They were permitted to make orders and regulations for carrying on their trade, which gave them a degree of credit unknown before: they supported the poor and indigent of their own nation, not suffering them to become a burthen to those whose hospitality had given them an asylum; and for the purposes of religion, they had the Church of St. Giles assigned them, wherein the doctrines of Luther were expounded by a minister chosen from among themselves. These liberties, far greater than any their own country afforded, tempted many, who had otherwise no rational motive, to leave their native soil, and associate with their brethren thus established. Their numbers daily increased, and Colchester was upon the point of becoming a colony of Flemings, as well as of enduring the incommodious circumstances of dearth, and dearness of provision. The congregation was unable to restrain this increase; and the Bailiffs and Aldermen, to prevent further accumulation to a body already too unweildy, were obliged to issue a command, that no stranger should, for the future, be permitted to reside in the precincts of the town, without their special consent."

History of Colchester, Vol. I. p. 118.

At the commencement of the destructive commotions between Charles the First and his Parliament, the inhabitants of Colchester took part with the latter, and in 1642, petitioned that the town might be better fortified. The sum of 1500*l.* was accordingly granted for repairing the walls, and providing other means of defence. Soon afterwards some unwarranted acts of outrage were committed by the lower classes against the Lucas family; but the horrors of civil war were not felt in all their severity till the year 1648, when the memorable siege of Colchester reduced the inhabitants to the greatest distress.

At this period, a design was conceived by many of the nobility and gentry in different parts of the kingdom, to restrain the undue exercise of Parliamentary power, and restore the functions of government into its former channel. Frequent conferences to promote these purposes were held in various counties, and particularly in Kent, where great numbers assembled under George Goring, Earl of Norwich, who, without sufficient experience, assumed the office of General. Having marched to Blackheath, in expectation of being joined by the Londoners, the Parliament's army, commanded by Lord Fairfax, advanced to encounter the newly-raised forces, who immediately retreated, and dividing into two bodies, one took the road towards Rochester, the other towards Maidstone. The former were overtaken, and defeated: the latter again advanced to Blackheath, still hoping to receive assistance from the Metropolis; but a detachment coming against them, the greater number dispersed. The remainder, with Lord Goring, crossed the Thames at Greenwich, and took post at Mile-End, and Stratford-le-Bow, where they remained five days, and were joined by many Kentish-men, and London apprentices.

In the mean time, the Royalists in Essex exerted themselves with great success, and having seized the Committee of Parliament sitting at Chelmsford, assembled a considerable force, and, under the command of Sir Charles Lucas, marched to Brentwood, and joined the Lord Goring, who had advanced to meet them; their united strength was quickly increased by the junction of detached parties from various quarters; and the army thus drawn

together, soon amounted to 3400 foot, and 600 horse. This force being insufficient to cope with Fairfax, who was then in close pursuit, it was determined to proceed to Colchester.

The inhabitants, wishing to prevent the entrance of the Royalists, shut the gates, and collected a troop of about sixty horse to defend the passage; but, on the approach of Sir Charles Lucas, with some companies of cavalry, they thought it most prudent to deliver up the town, on a promise that it should be preserved from pillage, and none of the towns-people injured. The main force had now arrived; and the approach of Fairfax being quickly apprehended, guards were posted at every avenue, the walls were strengthened, and every thing assumed the appearance of a vigorous resistance. The next day, June the thirteenth, the Parliament army arrived on Lexden Heath; and Fairfax summoned Lord Goring to surrender the town, and cause his forces to lay down their arms. To this message, an insolent negative was returned by the Earl; and an assault was immediately commenced: the suburbs were forced after a dreadful conflict, and nothing but the most determined bravery prevented the place from being carried. Some foot soldiers of the enemy had entered with the retreating Royalists, but were again driven out by the pikes of the Royalist officers, who, in the confusion, closed the gate upon many of their own people. The assault continued between seven and eight hours; till at length, wearied by the obstinate defence of the besieged, the troops of Fairfax retreated in much disorder.

Being thus repelled in a general assault, Fairfax commenced a regular blockade, and, after a protracted investment of eleven weeks, in which many vigorous sallies had been made with various success, obtained possession of the town. The terms of surrender were unusually severe, as the Parliamentary General refused to promise quarter to any but the common soldiers, and officers under the rank of Captains. The necessity of the case admitted no alternative, and to this hard condition the Royalist officers were obliged to submit; every usual kind of provision having been long exhausted, and both inhabitants and soldiers reduced to satisfy the cravings of hunger on horses, dogs, and other animals.

Soon after the troops of Fairfax had entered the town, a Council of War was held at the Moot-Hall, and Sir Charles Lucas, Sir George Lisle, and Sir Bernard Gascoyne, condemned to suffer death. The reason of this procedure, as formally stated to the sufferers, was, that, "after so long and obstinate a defence, it was necessary, for the example of others, and that the peace of the kingdom might be no more disturbed in that manner, that some military justice should be executed, and therefore that the Council had determined that they three should be presently shot to death."* The three unfortunate officers were then conducted to the Castle; but it having been discovered that Gascoyne was a Florentine, his sentence was reversed, and himself ordered to be confined with the other prisoners. Soon afterwards, Colonel Ireton was dispatched to inform Sir Charles Lucas, and Sir George Lisle, to prepare for death. At seven o'clock the same evening, they were led to a green spot of ground, only a few paces distant from the north wall of the Castle, and there submitted to their harsh fate with the most intrepid bravery. The bodies of the two Knights were privately interred in the vault of the Lucas family, in St. Giles's Church.

After this execution, the Lord Goring, Lord Capel,† and the other officers, were assured of "fair quarter as prisoners of war;" but this promise the paramount jurisdiction of the Parliament thought proper to disannul in respect to Lord Capel, who was impeached, and brought to trial, when refusing to acknowledge the authority of the court, he was condemned to die, and suffered the pain of his sentence in March, 1649. After the surrender of the town, a contribution of 14,000*l.* was imposed on the inhabitants; of which sum 2000*l.* was afterwards remitted; 2000*l.* was bestowed to relieve the distresses of the poor, and the remaining 10,000*l.* distributed

* Clarendon, Book XI. p. 305.

† The strength and personal courage of Arthur, Lord Capel, who fought on the side of Lord Goring, was, in the first assault, singularly conspicuous: in the tumult, no bar could be found to fasten the closed gate, and it was secured by a cane only, belonging to this nobleman.

distributed among the soldiers. During the siege, upwards of 300 houses, and various other buildings, had been burnt, or otherwise destroyed.*

Before the army of Fairfax quitted the town, the walls and fortifications were completely dismantled; the magistrates being obliged to supply the necessary tools to effect their destruction. In the year 1665, the dreadful plague, which ravaged London, extended its baneful miasma to Colchester, and before the contagion had ceased to act, nearly 5000 persons had been swept away by its influence.

Colchester is principally situated on the summit and northern aspect of a fine eminence, rising from the river Colne, which flows on the north and east sides, and is navigable to the spot called the New-Hythe, in the east quarter of the town. The space inclosed by the remains of the ancient walls, forms a parallelogram, having its longest sides towards the north and south: the buildings without the walls are very irregularly disposed, chiefly on the south and east. The principal street, which runs nearly east and west, within the parallelogram, contains many large shops, and respectable houses; but is somewhat disfigured by the old Market-house, and other small buildings, which stand near the middle of the street, and obstruct the passage. Part of the town was paved as early as the year 1473. In the reign of James the First, an act was obtained for paving the whole, and its provisions were enforced by another act passed in 1750; by these, the land-owners, and proprietors of buildings, are ordered to pave, and keep in repair, all the ways contiguous to their respective possessions.

Great attention was formerly given to the preservation of the *Walls*, but they are now in a great degree destroyed; and what remains, is only kept in repair by those who have gardens, or other grounds, adjoining. The walls consist of stone and Roman brick, united by a very strong cement. The thickness varies, but is, in general, from seven to eight feet. The inclosed area contains ra-

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* A very extended account of the events of the siege of Colchester may be seen in Morant's Essex, Vol. I. p. 59, *et seq.* compiled from Rushworth, Clarendon, Whitlocke, &c.

ther more than 108 acres: the circumference of the walls being one mile and three quarters. Edward the Elder, as already mentioned from the Saxon Chronicle, repaired, or rebuilt them, after the defeat of the Danes in 921; and Richard the Second is recorded to have exempted the Burgesses from the *charge* of returning members to Parliament three several times, on account of the great expence they were at "in repairing their wall with lime and stone against all invaders." The like exemption was granted by the Henries, Fourth and Fifth; but since the siege in the time of Charles the First, the walls have had no public labor expended on them. When in their perfect state, the town was entered by four principal gates and three posterns; most of which are now destroyed. The walls were strengthened by several bastions, and on the west defended by a small ancient fort, called *Colkynges Castel*; the arches that remain, are formed of Roman brick. On the north and west sides were deep ditches, in the places most open to attack.

On an elevated spot, to the north of the High Street, and commanding a fine view of the winding valley to the north and east, stands the CASTLE. The outer walls are nearly perfect, and, by their vast thickness and solidity, evince the importance that in the early ages was attached to this situation. The whole building is constructed with a mixture of stone, flint, and Roman bricks; but the latter are chiefly in pieces, conveying the idea of their having been taken from some more ancient building. Norden ascribes the erection of this fortress to Edward the Elder; but the Monasticon, before quoted, refers it to Eudo Dapifer, Sewer or Steward to William the Conqueror: in its general structure it is evidently Norman; though, from the immense quantity of Roman bricks worked up in the walls, it seems probable that it was raised upon the site of some Roman building, and with a large portion of its materials. The tradition, indeed, as recorded in the Colchester Chronicle, clearly points out a more ancient edifice on this spot; *in fundo Palatii Coelis quondam Regis*: now if, according to the ingenious supposition of Mr. Gough, Coël, or Cœlius, was a Roman name, the origin of the fortress

seems at once determined; and, unless some spacious structure had previously occupied this spot, there seems great difficulty in accounting for such a large space as the Castle and its ramparts cover, and situated so near the middle of Colchester, remaining unoccupied till the time of the Normans.

The Castle is built in the form of a parallelogram, the east and west sides measuring 140 feet each, the north and south sides 102 feet each: at the north-east and north-west angles are projecting square towers; at the south side, on the west face, is another square tower; and on the east face, a semicircular tower; the external radius of which is twenty feet. The foundations are thirty feet thick; the lower part of the walls twelve feet thick, and the upper part nearly eleven. The principal entrance is near the south-west tower, beneath a strong semicircular arch, with three-quarter columns; having capitals, ornamented in the Norman style: this was anciently defended by a portcullis. On the right, within the entrance, is a niche, where the guard or porter was stationed, the leisure and irksomeness of whose calling is expressed by the figures rudely sculptured on the adjacent stones. At a little distance beyond is a square room, at the further end of which is a flight of stairs leading to the vaults.

“ At the foot of the stairs is a vault twenty-six feet in length, and twenty-one in breadth, having at the further end a narrow passage, which is bricked up, to prevent accidents arising from the ruinous state of the arch of the vault to which it leads. On the right of this first vault is a passage, that has been broken through the wall into an adjacent vault: this, which is not penetrated by a single ray of light, is of the same dimensions as the first; and through a chasm at the further end, is a way to a third vault, of the same breadth of the others, but much longer. When these vaults were first discovered, which is not more than eighty or ninety years ago, they were full of sand, to carry off which, an opening was made through the foundation wall, near the north-east corner; but this passage is now closed up. The original descent into these vaults is still hidden, the present staircase breaking through the crown of the arch; it seems probable, therefore,

that various others are yet unknown. Between the stairs and a window in the south wall, is a well, now arched over: at the time of doing which, the workmen, whose curiosity induced them to descend, discovered, about half way down, an arched passage, leading towards the south; but this was not explored.

“ Beyond the stairs is the entrance to a large area, formerly inclosed by a roof, and divided by a wall running north and south. This space included, upon its different floors, the principal apartments of the castle; and also a gallery that runs between the wall which crosses the area, and that which is demolished. At the south end of the gallery, on the ground floor, is a strong arched room, that receives a scanty portion of light through a small aperture in the south wall of the castle: this miserable hold, as tradition asserts, was the last lodging of Sir Charles Lucas, and Sir George Lisle.

“ At the extremity of a wall which separates this area from a second, is a door above and below, which led into apartments that filled the space between the east wall of the Castle and the gallery. At the south end of this space, in the south-east tower, on the ground floor, is a strong arched room, the walls of which are of extraordinary thickness. In the south-west tower is the grand staircase, which is circular, arched above, and built of stone. This leads to a modern room, used for a Subscription Library. An arcade of modern workmanship, which runs along the north wall of the Library, conducts to the ancient Chapel. This is a venerable piece of architecture; the beauty of its proportions strike the eye, notwithstanding the massiveness of its construction. The roof is strongly arched: the light enters through five windows; two of which have been enlarged, but the others remain nearly in their original state.” The length of this Chapel is forty-seven feet, the width nearly forty; the height proportionable. An arched vault beneath is used for the confinement of prisoners.

“ In the north-east and north-west towers, upon the same floor as the Chapel, are various small rooms, or recesses; and in the latter, is also a staircase, which descends from the upper part of the tower, and terminates at the first floor. At the foot of the

stairs, in the north wall of the Castle, is a sally-port, now closed up, which opened upon an abutment of the north-west tower. This sally-port, which is nine feet wide, and the great doorway in the south wall, are the only original entrances into the Castle. From the principal staircase in the north-east tower, another flight of steps leads to what was the second floor: the walls of this story, of which but a very small part remains, were nine feet thick. The dome which covers the staircase, the passage formed upon the west and north wall of the Castle, and the small room upon the summit of the north-east tower, are all of modern construction. The great doorway in the north wall, and the small port in the east wall, are likewise modern, and have been formed with great labor, by the enlargement of a narrow window in each place. Several of the windows have also, with no less labor, been enlarged; in their original state, but a very scanty portion of light could have found entrance into the interior apartments. The peculiar construction of these windows, so entirely different from any in modern buildings, is worthy observation. An arched niche, about three feet deep, formed the inner opening of the window; in the back of which niche, another, of less dimensions, gradually decreasing in breadth, penetrated about seven feet further; at the extremity of which, a narrow aperture, only eight inches wide, lined with hewn stone, was made through the remaining thickness of the wall. From the floor of the rooms, an ascent was made to the narrow aperture of the window, by a small flight of steps.”*

Several horizontal bands, or fillets, of Roman brick, disposed in perpendicular and oblique layers, run round the outside of the whole building. On the north and east sides, the Castle was defended by a high rampart, raised upon a more ancient wall, and by a deep foss, now partly filled up. On the south and west sides, it was strengthened by a massive wall, in which were two gates: this has been pulled down some years, and its site is occupied by a range of modern houses. The Castle, with its precincts, called the

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Bailey,

* History of Colchester, Vol. II. p. 155, *et seq.*

Bailey, (*Ballium*,) is extra parochial, and exempt from the jurisdiction of the borough officers. Originally, indeed, the town was feudatory to the Castle; but an exemption from all services, fines, &c. was purchased by the Burgesses from Queen Elizabeth, and afterwards confirmed by Parliament.

Colchester Castle came very early into the power of the Crown. The Empress Maud granted it to Alberic de Vere, ancestor to the Veres, Earls of Oxford; but it is not certain that he was ever in possession. It was next bestowed, during pleasure, on Stephen Harengood. Henry the Third, in 1256, granted it to Guido de la Rupe-Ford, or Rochford; but this nobleman falling into disgrace two years afterwards, he was deprived of his estates, and banished. By Edward the First, it was successively bestowed on John de Burgh, Richard de Holbrook, and Laurence de Seaccaris, Sheriff of Essex: to the latter it was granted for a county gaol; and its demesnes were ordered to be ploughed and sown for the King's use. The next possessor was Robert de Benhall, Knt. to whom it was granted for life, by Edward the Third; from whose reign to that of Charles the First, it was granted to various noblemen during life or pleasure, by successive Sovereigns. Of the latter Monarch, James Hay, Earl of Carlisle, purchased the reversion to him and his heirs for ever. It was then held by Sir John Stanhope; and has since passed through various families, chiefly by purchase.*

The town and suburbs of Colchester comprehend twelve parishes, of which eight are within the walls; but some of the churches are destroyed. The remainder, with the ruins of St. John's

* One of its possessors was a Mr. John Wheely, who bought it in the year 1683, for the purpose of pulling it down, and disposing of the materials to advantage; but this intent was defeated by the solidity of the building, and strength of the cement. Much damage was, however, done; large quantities of the Roman bricks were taken away, and most of the free-stone of the door and window cases, and interior of the arches. The tops of the towers and walls were forced down with screws, or blown up with gunpowder; but the expence of effecting this destruction was so great, that the idea was abandoned, as the price procured for the materials would not defray the charges.

John's Abbey, St. Botolph's Priory, and the Moot-Hall, constitute the chief of the ancient and public buildings. ST. JOHN'S ABBEY, so called from its dedication to St. John-Baptist, was a very magnificent structure, founded by Eudo Dapifer, in the year 1097. It occupied a pleasant eminence without the walls, on the south side of the town; but only the entrance gateway, and some fragments of the other parts of the building, are remaining. On some portion of its site, a wooden Church had previously stood, dedicated to St. John the Evangelist, whose influence was reported to have performed several miracles near this spot: this occasioned Eudo to make choice of it for his intended foundation. When the buildings were sufficiently completed, he procured two Benedictine Monks from Rochester, to reside in it; but they, becoming dissatisfied with their treatment, returned, and their places were supplied by two others, who, like the former, were not content with the small endowments granted by Eudo, and soon went back to their brethren at Rochester. The care of the foundation was then committed to Stephen, the first Abbot of St. Mary's, York, who placed in it a Provost and twelve Monks; and the furtherance of the building being referred to William, a Priest, and nephew to Eudo, who spared neither attention, nor expence, the Abbey was completed in a superb style by the commencement of the year 1104, when it was consecrated by Maurice, Bishop of London. At the same period, it was liberally endowed by the founder, and other devout persons; and Hugo, one of the Monks, was appointed Abbot. Eudo, who died at his Castle of Preaux, in Normandy, was, at his own desire, brought to England, and buried here in February, 1120. Many other eminent persons are supposed, by Browne Willis, to have been interred here.*

This Abbey continued in a very flourishing state till the time of the Dissolution, the Abbot having the privilege of sitting in Parliament; and the foundation itself possessing the same privileges as St. Peter's, Westminster. At the Suppression, its annual revenues were, according to Dugdale, estimated at 523*l.* 17*s.* 10*d.* but

* View of the Mitred Abbeyes.

but this sum is thought to have been far below the actual produce. John Beche, the last Abbot, was attainted of high treason, for refusing to acknowledge the King's supremacy, and on December the first, 1539, was hanged "upon the same gallows which the Abbots of St. John had granted the Burgesses of Colchester liberty to erect in the manor of Greenstead." Henry the Eighth, in 1544, granted the site of the Monastery to Sir Thomas D'Arcy, Knight, for twenty-one years; and Edward, his successor, in 1547, granted the reversion to Dudley, Earl of Warwick, from whom it passed to John Lucas, Town-Clerk of Colchester, and Master of Requests to the King. This gentleman converted the Abbey into a family seat, a circumstance that greatly contributed to its destruction, as John, Lord Lucas, his descendant, elder brother of Sir Charles Lucas, assisted the Royalists during the siege of Colchester, and having admitted a garrison, his house was stormed on the fourteenth of July, 1648, and a considerable part of it battered down. At that time, it appears to have consisted of the entrance gateway, and two quadrangular piles of building, inclosing courts. The garden walls, which still remain, include between thirteen and fourteen acres. The *Gateway** is built with hewn stone and flint; the workmanship is very neat. The Abbey Church was a singular building; having a tower in the centre, with circular angles, terminated by small conical spires: the west front, also, was furnished with circular turrets.† St. John's Abbey had the privilege of sanctuary.

Near the north-west corner of St. John's garden, is *St. Giles's Church*, a small building, partly in ruins, of which the chancel only is now used for divine service. This was the burial-place of the Lucas family, several of whom are commemorated by inscriptions. Here also, with his fellow sufferer Sir Charles Lucas, was interred

* From the architecture of this structure, it may be supposed of later erection than the other parts of the Abbey; probably towards the end of the twelfth century, or beginning of the thirteenth; see vignette to this Volume.

† A drawing of this structure, in the Cottonian Library, Nero. VIII. 13. has been engraved for Morant's Essex.

interred the remains of Sir George Lisle; the fate of these lamented friends is thus recorded:

UNDER THIS MARBLE LY THE BODIES
OF THE TWO MOST VALIANT CAPTAINS
SR. CHARLES LVCAS, AND SR. GEORGE LISLE, KNTS.
WHO FOR THEIR EMINENT LOYALTY
TO THEIR SOVERAIN,
WERE ON THE 28th. DAY OF AVGVST, 1648,
BY THE COMMAND OF SR. THO. FAIRFAX,
THEN GENERAL OF THE PARLIAMENT ARMY,
IN COLD BLOVD BARBAROVSLY MVRDERED.*

At a short distance, north-east from St. John's, are the remains of ST. BOTOLPH'S PRIORY, which, like the former, owes its principal demolition to the siege in 1648. This structure is generally reported to have been founded by a monk named Eynulph, or Ernulph, in the beginning of the twelfth century; though some portion of the ruins seems to imply a much anterior date. Ernulph became the first Prior, and placed on his foundation, regular Canons of the order of St. Augustine. This was the earliest establishment of this order in England, as appears from a bull issued by Pope Paschal II. in August 1116. By this bull, Ernulph, his brethren, and successors, were invested with liberty to plant and distribute their members as they judged expedient; and empowered to govern all others by their own rules, having full authority over every other establishment for Augustine Canons in England.

* These letters are cut very deep into the marble: according to tradition, this was done by the command of Charles the Second, from the following circumstance. George Villiers, Duke of Buckingham, who had married the only daughter of General Fairfax, applied to the King for permission to have it erased, as it reflected on the memory of his father-in-law. The King mentioned the request to Lord Lucas, who replied, that, he would readily accede to his Majesty's wish, provided he would permit him to insert in its room, 'that Sir Charles Lucas, and Sir George Lisle, were barbarously murdered for their loyalty to Charles the First, and that his son, Charles the Second, ordered this memorial of their loyalty to be erased.' The King, struck with the observation, is said to have immediately ordered the letters of the original inscription to be engraven as deep as possible.

England. It likewise exempted them from every kind of secular and ecclesiastical jurisdiction; and directed that, after the death of Ernulph, the succeeding Priors should be elected by the Canons, and consecrated without fees. The possessions bestowed by the founder, and other benefactors, were increased by Henry the First, who granted the Canons the whole tythes of his demesnes in Hatfield Regis, or Broad-Oak; and confirmed the sergeantry, and lands given by Hugh Fitz-Stephen, on condition that on every Welsh war, they should find a horse of five shillings value, a sack, and a spur, for the King's use, for forty days. The revenues were still further augmented by various donations; and at the period of the Dissolution, their annual amount was estimated at 134*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.** The site and possessions of the Priory were granted by Henry the Eighth, to the Lord Chancellor Audley, but have since passed into various families.

Very little of the monastic buildings can now be discovered, the parts that remain having been worked up in the walls of a brew-house, erected on their site. The PRIORY CHURCH continued perfect till the time of the siege, it having been parochial as well as conventual: it was then in a great measure destroyed. The contending parties accuse each other of having wantonly occasioned its demolition. Its ruins are extremely interesting to the architectural antiquary, from presenting some curious specimens of brick ornaments, and of interlaced arches, from which the idea of the pointed arch is thought by some to have been conceived. In its original state, the length of this edifice within the walls, was 108 feet; its breadth, including the nave and aisles, nearly forty-four feet. The west front was highly decorated: on this side was the principal entrance, which still remains. The doorway is a fine semicircular retiring arch, having various mouldings constructed with small, thin bricks, and hewn stone, in alternate succession. The mouldings rest on three-quarter columns, of which there were five on each side, each having different capitals, charged with sculptured foliage, and figures of animals. Above the door-way is a double row of interlaced circular arches.

* Pat. 28. Hen. VIII. 4. p. 186.

arches of Roman brick, which appear to have extended to each extremity of the front. Above these arches, near the centre, are the remains of a large circular opening, which admitted light into a gallery that formed a passage between two "stately towers" that once stood at the angles of this end of the building. The nave was separated from the aisles by rows of circular columns, five feet and a half in diameter, supporting semi-circular arches. On the north side six of these columns, with their arches, are yet standing; but on the south, two only now remain. Both the columns and arches are principally built with broken Roman bricks, and appear to have been covered with a kind of stucco. The north aisle seems to have been altered, the windows being finished in the pointed style. Several tombs and broken stones, are scattered among the vegetables that are cultivated in the inside; the whole area being appropriated as a garden.

At some distance to the east of St. Botolph's, is *St. Mary Magdalen's Hospital*, originally founded by Eudo Dapifer, in the reign of Henry the First, for persons afflicted with the leprosy. The endowment was augmented by King Stephen; and Richard the First granted the brethren liberty to hold a two-days fair. In the reign of Edward the First, the tythes of St. John's Abbey, and other revenues belonging to this Hospital, were withheld by Adam de Campes, then Abbot of St. John's; who also craftily obtained possession of the common seal, and charter, and expelled the brethren; who, however, were reinstated, and had their privileges restored, by order of Parliament. After the suppression of this Hospital, in the reign of Edward the Sixth, its possessions were much dissipated, and the Chapel entirely destroyed; but in the year 1610, it was re-founded, for a Master, and five poor Pensioners, unmarried, under the title of the College or Hospital of King James, and the brethren were incorporated. What is now called the Hospital, consists of a few old buildings, on the north of Magdalen Church. In the church of ST. LEONARD, which is still further to the east, and not very distant from the river, were formerly two Chantries: one of them was founded in the reign of Edward the Fourth, by Peter Barwick, and on the Suppression, valued

valued at 11l. 8s. 4d. annually: the other was founded by Edward Harmonsens, about the beginning of the reign of Henry the Seventh; its possessions at the Dissolution were estimated at 5l.

On the south-west side of Colchester, in St. Mary's Parish, was a Monastery of *Crouchid Friars*, founded about the year 1244, when that order first came into England. It afterwards underwent several alterations; and, in 1407, became the seat of the rich Guild of St. Helen, with whose possessions four Chuntries established here and in the Church of St. Nicholas, were incorporated. Soon after the Dissolution, its revenues were granted to Sir Thomas Audley, Lord Chancellor. In 1637, the monastic buildings having been converted into a dwelling-house, were inhabited by Sir Harbottle Grimston; but were partly destroyed during the siege. The remains were fitted up as a workhouse, but have since been entirely taken down.

The most considerable Church within the walls, is dedicated to *St. James*, and appears to have been founded about the reign of Edward the Second. It consists of a body, chancel, and side aisles, with a square tower at the west end. In the south aisle is a monument to Arthur Winsley, Esq. Alderman of the town, who founded Alms-houses for twelve poor persons in St. Botolph's parish. *All Saints Church* was built before the year 1356: the tower is mostly of flint, having only a small quantity of stonework at the angles. Near the east gate, in this parish, was a Monastery of *Grey Friars*, founded in the year 1309, by Robert, Lord Fitz-Walter, who, a short time before his decease, in 1325, is recorded to have assumed the habit of this order. Only some fragments of this house remain, and those are incorporated with other buildings. *St. Nicholas Church* is partly in ruins, the tower having fallen upon the body and chancel a few years ago, while the workmen, who had been employed to repair it, were absent. In this parish stands the Chapel of *St. Helen*, so named from its dedication to Helena, the mother of Constantine; and traditionally asserted to have been founded by her. Eudo, founder of St. John's, rebuilt it about the year 1076: it is now repaired in the modern style, and used as a Quakers' Meeting-House. In *Trinity Church*

Church is a monument to the memory of DR. WILLIAM GILBERD, a native of this town, who was principal Physician to Queen Elizabeth, and James the First: he was author of an Essay on the Loadstone, entitled *De Magnete*, and some other works. *St. Runwald's* is a small building, standing in the middle of the High-Street, which, after lying in ruins nearly 100 years, was repaired at the expence of the parishioners, and again opened for divine service in 1760. At a small distance north-west is the *Moot-Hall*, where the Courts are held, and the public business transacted: this building was founded by Eudo Dapifer. Adjoining, and partly beneath it, is the Town Gaol; and behind it, the *Theatre*. *St. Martin's* was founded about the year 1327; the tower is partly composed of Roman brick, but is now in ruins, having been damaged during the siege. *St. Peter's* was founded previous to the Conquest, and is the only Church in this town mentioned in the Domesday Book. In the year 1758, it was repaired and modernized, and had a new brick tower erected at the west end: the original tower stood at the intersection of the body and chancel. Before the Dissolution, a chantry and a guild existed in this Church. *St. Mary's* stands near the south-west corner of the town, in a high situation; the body of this Church was rebuilt in the year 1713; and in 1729, the ancient tower was heightened twelve feet, and repaired. Some of the Houses in this town are of considerable age; and two ancient dates remain carved on wood in different buildings, which have occasioned several disputations among antiquaries, as to the time when Arabic numerals were introduced into England.* Colchester is one of the towns included in the gift of Sir Thomas White;† many other charitable benefactions have been given, by various persons, for the use of the poor. A *Free School*, and several *Charity Schools*, have been established here for the education of youth: and various *Meeting-Houses* have been built for different religious sects.

Colchester

* See Morant's Essex, Vol. I. p. 191. Philosophical Transactions, Aug. 1699. Bibliotheca Literaria, 1722, &c.

† See Beauties, Vol. I. p. 98.

Colchester was incorporated by charter of Richard the First, dated 1189; and at the same time, the Burgesses were invested with many valuable privileges, particularly the exclusive right of fishery on the Colne, from the North Bridge to West-nesse. These privileges have been confirmed and extended by many subsequent Kings, and particularly by Henry the Fifth, the Initial Letter of whose Charter represents St. Helena before the cross, finely illuminated. The last charter, and by which the town is now governed, was granted by his present Majesty in the year 1763. Its provisions are nearly the same as those in former charters granted by Charles the Second, and William and Mary, but which had been surrendered on different occasions. The corporate officers consists of a Mayor, Recorder, Town-Clerk, twelve Aldermen, eighteen Assistants, eighteen Common-Councilmen, and inferior servants. The right of returning the Members to Parliament is vested in the Corporation and free Burgesses not receiving alms: the number of voters is about 1400. The earliest return was made in the twenty-fifth of Edward the First.

Colchester has been a market-town time immemorial; but this privilege was confirmed by the charter of Richard the First. The number of inhabitants returned under the late act, as residing within the walls and suburbs, was 10,089; the number of houses, 1793. A considerable portion of the trade of this town arises from the *Oyster Fishery*; Colchester oysters having been long celebrated for their goodness and flavor. The following particulars relating to this fishery, are condensed from the account published by Dr. Spratt, in the History of the Royal Society.

The spawn of the oyster, called *spat* by the fishermen, is cast in April and May, and about Midsummer and Michaelmas: the stones, oyster-shells, pieces of wood, and other substances to which it cleaves at the bottom of the sea, they call *cultch*. The spat, when first cast, is like the drop of a candle, but no larger than a spangle: in twenty-four hours afterwards, it is conjectured that the shell begins to be formed. After the oysters have first spawned, they are sick, but soon begin to get well, and in August are perfectly so: the male oyster having a black substance in the
fin,

fin, is termed black sick; the female having a milky substance in the fin, is termed white sick. When the oysters are taken, the small brood is separated from the cultch, which is then thrown in again; but if the spat is so small that it cannot be severed from the cultch, the fishermen are permitted to take the latter with the spat. The spat and small oysters thus taken, are spread upon places called *beds* or *layers*, near the edge of the river, where they grow and fatten, and in two or three years, the smallest become oysters of the legal size,* and are then removed from their layings, or beds, into pits cut in the marshes, where they fatten for sale. In some of the pits, in a few days, a green color is communicated to the fin of the oyster; and though the method of giving this quality to the pit is kept a secret, there seems reason to believe, that it arises from sowing the bottom of the pit with the seed of a particular vegetable, on which the oysters feed as it springs up. As the cultch is so very necessary for the oysters to spat upon, it is made felony to carry it away after the month of May; and penalties are laid by the Admiralty Court on those who destroy or purloin it at any time. The penalties are, however, insufficient to prevent the removal of the cultch, as the fishermen can frequently carry so much out of the river covered with spat, as will enable them to discharge the fines many times over.

Though the produce of this fishery has obtained the general name of Colchester Oysters, yet these are of several kinds. The Pye-fleet, which is most in request, is a small thick oyster, with a deep clear shell. The creek wherein this species is found, extends from the river to the Strode at the entrance of Mersey Island. The number of oysters which are *natives* of this creek, cannot be very great; neither can the whole produce of the river, with its various creeks, be anywise adequate to the vast quantities sold under the denomination of Colchester Oysters. The great demand daily made for them, has obliged the merchants to procure oysters from other places; these are strewn upon the Colchester layings, and

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when

* This size is known from a standard scale, or oyster cast in brass, which is kept by the Magistrates, or Water-Bailiff.

when they have attained a proper degree of fatness, are frequently vended as the natural produce of this fishery.*

Colchester had anciently the right of probate and enrolling of wills, which it continued to exercise till about the year 1560; and, among the privileges that it still enjoys from prescription, is the right vested in a *Femme-Covert*, or Married Woman, who, if her estate lies in the town, can convey it by deed without being obliged to pass a fine, having previously declared her consent before the Mayor.

DR. SAMUEL HARSNET, who was successively Bishop of Chichester and Norwich, and Archbishop of York, was the son of a Baker in this town, where he was born in the year 1561. At the age of fifteen, he was admitted into King's College, Cambridge; but afterwards he removed to Pembroke Hall, of which he was elected Fellow in the year 1583; and, on the resignation of Bishop Andrews, in 1605, chosen Master. He now obtained various church preferments; but being a favorer of the tenets of Arminianism, was accused of various misdemeanors by the Puritan party, in May, 1624. He died in the year 1631, and was buried in the Church at Chigwell, where he had established a Free-School. One of his publications was intituled, "A Discovery of the fraudulent Practices of John Darrel, in his Proceedings concerning the pretended Possession and Dispossession of William Somers, at Nottingham, and others: detecting, in some Sort, the deceitful Trade in these latter Days of casting out Devils."

MILE-END, so named from being that distance north from Colchester, is an extensive parish, chiefly belonging to the Burgesses of that town, to whom the estate anciently called King's Wood, and King's-Wood Heath, was granted either by Henry the First, or the usurper Stephen. It afterwards reverted to the Crown, but
was

* The Romans, observes Mr. Whitaker, in his History of Manchester, first taught us the art of fattening our oysters in artificial beds; the feeding pits being first invented about ninety years before Christ, and first constructed upon the shore of Baia; and even as early as the reign of Vespasian, the British oyster was deemed famous among the Romans, and thought worthy to be carried into Italy.

was again invested in the Burgesses of Colchester by Henry the Eighth. This estate was originally part of the Royal Forest, but the greatest portion is now cultivated. A manor in this parish was possessed by the Abbots of St. Osyth, and still retains the name of Abbots' Hall. The number of inhabitants, as returned under the late act, was 299; of houses, 44. The mansion inhabited by the rector, is close to the Church-Yard, and commands a fine view of Colchester.

WIVENHOE, or WIVENHOO, a populous and respectable village, about two miles south-east from Colchester, stands on the acclivity and summit of a pleasant eminence, on the north side of the Colne, of which it commands a fine prospect down to Mersey Island. At the time of the Domesday Survey, this manor was possessed by Robert Gernon, and became parcel of his barony of Stansted-Montfichet. It was afterwards the property of the *Batayles*, or *De Batailes*; and, in the reign of Henry the Third, Simon de Bataile obtained the privilege of free-warren in his manors of *Wynenho*, *Pateswyke*, and *Stistede*. From the *Batailes* it passed, by marriage, through the Sutton, Walton, and Howard families, to John de Vere, twelfth Earl of Oxford, of that name, who having espoused the Lancastrian interest, was beheaded in 1461; and his estates being confiscated by Edward the Fourth, Wivenhoe, with other manors, was granted by that Monarch to his brother, the Duke of Gloucester, afterwards Richard the Third. Henry the Seventh restored the *De Veres* to their honors and inheritance; and this manor continued in their possession till the prodigality of Edward, the seventeenth Earl, occasioned it to be sold to Roger Townsend, Esq. who was knighted at sea for his bravery in the engagement with the Spanish armada. From the Townsends it passed, by sale, about the period of the Restoration, to Nicholas Corselles, Esq. whose descendants are the present owners. WIVENHOE HALL is pleasantly situated north-west from the village: when in possession of the Earls of Oxford, it was a large and elegant building, having a fine tower gateway of considerable height, and serving for a sea-mark. The population

of Wivenhoe,* as enumerated under the late act, was 1093; the number of houses 177.

MERSEY ISLAND

Is situated at the confluence of the rivers Colne and Blackwater, being separated from the main land by the small creek or channel called the Pye-fleet, where the best-flavored oysters are produced. Its length, from north-east to south-west, is about five miles; its greatest breadth about two miles. The only road by which it can be entered, is a causeway called the *Strode*, a contraction from *L'est Rode*, which crosses the Pye-fleet creek, and is covered by the sea at high-water. This Island possesses many natural beauties; is well wooded, and beautifully varied with hill and dale. On the sea-coast, the shore is bold and commanding; but on the north, it is flat and shelving, and skirted by a great extent of salt marshes. The soil in the higher parts, consists of a dark-colored friable mould, with a sandy or gravelly loam beneath, and a deep hazel-colored strong earth on a brown tender clay. The embanked marshes, and heavy high-lands, have been much improved by the application of chalk, in the proportion of about eight loads per acre. The farms are separated from each other by thick hedge-rows, but the inclosed fields are generally small. The average produce of barley and oats, is about forty bushels an acre; of beans, thirty-two bushels; and of wheat, twenty-eight bushels an acre. The inhabitants are supplied with excellent water from various springs.

This Island was unquestionably known to the Romans, as numerous *Tessellated Pavements*, and other antiquities belonging to that people, have been discovered here: an eminence on the road to Colchester has also the name of Roman Hill. Dr. Cromwell Mortimer,

* The following custom, anciently observed in the manor of Wivenhoe, is mentioned by Morant. " Ric. Burre tenet unum Mesuagiam . . . Et debet talagiam, sectam curie, et *Merchet* hoc modo; quod si Maritare voluerit filiam suam cum quodam libero homine extra villam, faciet pacem domini pro maritaggio. Et si eam maritaverit alicui custumario ville, nihil dabit pro Maritaggio. *Extenta Manerii de Wivenho*, 13th Ed. II. et 18 Dec. 40 Ed. III.

Mortimer, Secretary to the Royal Society, who first gave a particular description of the pavements, supposes, from their number and diversity, that some Roman *Prætor* had a villa on the spot where they were found. The *Count of the Saxon Shore* is also said, by Morant, to have certainly had his residence here. During the invasions of the Danes, this was frequently the landing-place and retreat of their ferocious bands; and the Great Alfred is recorded to have besieged a large party of them for some time on this Island in the year 894: several tumuli remain in different parts.

This Island is divided into two parishes, named, from their respective situations, WEST-MERSEY, and EAST-MERSEY. Great part of West-Mersey was given, by Edward the Confessor, to the Priory of St. Audoen at Rouen, in Normandy; and a cell of Benedictine monks belonging to that House was soon afterwards founded here; but on the suppression of the alien priories, it was granted, by Henry the Fifth, to Archbishop Chicheley, who settled it on the collegiate Church which he had previously founded at Higham-Ferrers, in Northamptonshire. On the Dissolution, in the reign of Henry the Eighth, the manor of West-Mersey, and other estates, were granted *in capite* to Robert D'Acres; but were afterwards given, by Edward the Sixth, to Thomas Lord D'Arcy, of Chich. In making some alterations at West-Mersey Hall, which stands near the Church, about the year 1730, the workmen discovered a very fine *Tessellated Pavement*, extending twenty-one feet and a half in length, and eighteen and a half in breadth. This was inspected by Dr. Mortimer, who found it composed of various colored tesserae, about half an inch, and three quarters of an inch square. From the parts that were uncovered, it appeared, that at each angle within the borders, were red and blue wreaths interwoven: next to them, on the north and south sides, were square white spaces, bordered with black, with a rose in each, shaded with red, yellow, and white. On the east and west sides were similar spaces, bordered with fret-work, variously shaded, and each containing a wreath of ivy leaves. Within these spaces was a large square, forming the middle of the pavement, bounded on the south and east by rows of diamonds or lozenges,

twelve inches in diameter, bordered with white, each containing a knot or wreath crossing at right angles, and alternately composed, one of black, blue, and white tesserae; the other of red, yellow, and white: the intermediate spaces were triangular, and were again subdivided into triangles of various colors. The centre was filled up with different squares, containing wreaths and rosaceous flowers. Part of this pavement extended into the Church-Yard, which is asserted, on good authority, to contain a diversity of these pavements lying contiguous to each other, and extending nearly 100 feet from east to west, and about fifty from north to south. A pavement of red tesserae, each an inch and a half square, and disposed in the form of star-like rays, was also found in the chancel, together with two ancient brass coins. Other antiquities have been met with in the adjacent lands, particularly buckles, hasps, and *styli*. A brass ring, five inches in diameter, pierced with small holes, supposed to have been the rim of a *Founder's* or *Slinger's* bag, has also been found here; together with various Roman *Patera*, some of which are preserved in the British Museum. The tower of East-Mersey Church serves as a sea-mark, and had formerly a beacon on its summit. The number of inhabitants in both parishes, as returned under the population act, was 896: of houses, 154.

ST. OSYTH, anciently called *Cice*, and *Chich*, derives its present name from Saint Osyth, daughter of Redoald,* King of East Anglia, and virgin-wife to Sighere, a Christian King of the East Saxons. She was born at Quarendon, in Buckinghamshire, and, according to the monkish legends, made a vow of virginity at an early age; but was compelled, by her father, to marry. The marriage, however, was never consummated; for, in the absence of her husband, she assumed the veil; and having afterwards obtained his consent to the fulfilment of her vow, she retired to Chich, and founded a Church and Nunnery. This establishment was plundered and destroyed by the Danes, under Ingvar and Hubba; and the royal foundress herself beheaded near an adjacent fountain. Her remains were first interred before the door

of

* Lel. de Script. Brit.

of her Church, but afterwards removed to Aylesbury, where many miracles are fabled to have been wrought through her intercession.*

After the Danes had obtained regal domination in England, Chich St. Osyth was given, by King Canute, to Earl Godwin, the celebrated Earl of Kent, who granted it to Christ Church, Canterbury; yet at the time of the Domesday Survey, it belonged to the See of London. About the year 1118, Richard de Belmeis, Bishop of London, established a Priory for Austin Canons, on the supposed site of the nunnery erected by St. Osyth, to whom, in conjunction with St. Peter, and St. Paul, the new foundation was dedicated. The possessions of this Priory were greatly increased by different benefactors; and at the period of the Dissolution, its revenues, according to Speed, were valued at 758l. 5s. 8d. per annum. A Prior, an Abbot, and eighteen Canons, were then supported on the foundation. The site of the Priory, and various manors belonging to it, were soon afterwards granted to Thomas Lord Cromwell, on whose attainder they reverted to the Crown. Edward the Sixth re-granted Chich St. Osyth, and other manors, to Thomas Lord D'Arcy. Elizabeth, eldest daughter of the last Lord D'Arcy, married Sir Thomas Savage, afterwards Earl Rivers, whose family continued possessors till the beginning of the eighteenth century, when these estates were bequeathed, by the Hon. Richard Savage, to Bessy, his natural daughter, who married Frederic Zuleistein de Nassau, Earl of Rochford.

The remains of Bishop de Belmeis' foundation is now the seat of F. Nassau, Esq. of the family of the late "Earl of Rochford, whose grandfather, by marriage, acquired the estate of the Lords D'Arcy of Chich. The quadrangle is almost entire, except part of the north side, occupied by some modern apartments. The entrance is by a beautiful gateway of hewn stone, with flint, having two towers, and two posterns: the stables and offices that form the east and west sides of the court have great marks of antiquity, especially the former: to the east are three towers, one larger and loftier than the rest, commanding an extensive prospect. Among the ivy-grown ruins in the gardens is a pier, with this modern inscription, expressing the ancient magnificence of the place:

X 4

Vetus

* See Beauties, Vol. I. p. 348.

Vetus hæc
 quam cernis maceries
 conservata est
 ad Augustiniani cœnobii
 limites designandos.
 Tu vero
 inter hujus loci amœnitates
 gratulare
 ablegata jam ista superstitione
 quæ
 Domicilium tam superbum
 Segnitiei consecravit
 et
 Socordiz
 A. D. CIOIOCCCLX.*"

In the *Church* at St. Osyth† are several defaced monuments to the memory of the Lords D'Arcy, and others of the same family, that were buried here; particularly THOMAS, Lord D'Arcy, who had several considerable employments under Henry the Eighth and Edward the Sixth, and was created Knight of the Garter in the year 1551. Bishop Belmeis, the founder of the Priory, was also interred in this church in 1127, by desire of the canons. The population of this parish, as returned in 1801, was 1168; the number of houses 227.

THORPE, KIRKBY, and WALTON, are three contiguous parishes north-east from St. Osyth, which compose a district generally called the *Sokens*; a name derived from the Saxon *Soc*, or *Soca*, signifying immunity, peculiar privilege, and jurisdiction. The customs with respect to land are still particular. The lands
 are

* Gough's Additions to Camden, Vol. II. p. 59.

† The distinguished celebrity of this Saint, may be seen by the following extract from Newcourt's Repertorium, Vol. II. p. 455. "Richard, Bishop of London, founder hereof, caused the *arm of St. Osyth* to be translated to the Church of St. Paul with great solemnity, in the presence of William Corbell, or De Corbwill, the first Prior of this House, Archb. of Cant. and other Bishops, remitting xx days penance to all that came to worship it; and relaxing every year vii days penance, to all that should devoutly come hither to celebrate her festival."

are mostly copyhold, but nearly equal to freeholds. The tenants pay twelpence an acre for a fine, and two shillings for a cottage. "They may pull their houses down without a license; cut down their small trees; grant a lease, even for fifty years; and, indeed, do most things contrary to the custom of other copyholds."* The Lord of these three manors, which passed with St. Osyth, from Thomas, Lord D'Arcy, to the Earl of Rochford, "styles himself Lord of the Liberty, Franchises, Dominion, and peculiar Jurisdiction, of the Sokens, in the County of Essex: and appoints a Commissary, who takes the title of Official-principal, and Vicar-general, in Spiritual Causes to the same Lord. This Commissary keeps a court at Thorpe every three weeks, as occasion serves, and proves wills and testaments within the Sokens, which wills are kept in the church of Thorpe. The Lord of the Sokens hath also this peculiar privilege, that no bailiff can arrest within them but his own."†

This district was granted to the cathedral of St. Paul, by King Athelstan, before the year 941, under the name of *Eadulfes-nesa*; from *Eadulf*, a Saxon Thane; and the promontory at Walton, called the *nase*, or *ness*, which juts northward into the ocean. This promontory formerly extended much further to the east, but has been greatly encroached upon by the sea; and the ruins of buildings have been discovered under the water at a considerable distance, particularly on a shoal, called *West-Rocks*, nearly five miles from the shore, which is left dry during great ebbs. The spot where the ruins are found, is distinguished by the appellation of *the Town*. The wall thrown up to keep out the sea, gave name to Walton parish; within which is a *Light-House* of brick, eighty feet high, erected by the Master, &c. of the Trinity-House.

Between the pillars of the south aisle in the *Church* at Thorpe, is the figure of a Knight cross-legged, apparently of the age of Henry the Third, or Edward the First. On his left arm is a shield; his head rests upon a cushion, and his feet on a lion couchant: above is a shield of arms, said to be those of Salberghe.

This

* Morant, Vol. I. p. 481.

† Ibid.

This figure is traditionally affirmed to represent an owner of Landmer Hall, a manor in this parish. Within the embanked marshes of this quarter, good water is extremely scarce. The number of persons inhabiting the Sokens, as returned under the act of 1801, was 1859; the number of houses within the same district, 278. Between Walton and Harwich are several small islands, that have been formed by the sea: one of these is called *Pewit* Island, from the great number of pewits that harbour there.

HARWICH,

A POPULOUS market and sea-port town, though only a chapelry to Dover-Court, is situated at the north-east extremity of this county, on a point of land, bounded on the east by the sea, and on the north, by the estuaries of the Stour and Orwell. The name of Harwich is derived from the Saxon words, *Here*, an army, and *Wic*, a castle, or fortification: from these words it has been supposed that a Saxon army was stationed here to prevent the descent of invaders. It is also probable that the Romans had a very considerable station near this place, as the remains of an ancient camp, of great extent, may yet be traced. On one side the rampart is, in several places, from ten to twelve feet high; and the ditch, though in a great degree filled up, six feet deep, and nearly forty wide. The high road leading to it, and to the town, is called *the Street*: here several Roman coins have been found; and in a small adjoining farm, belonging to the vicarage of Dover-Court, a Tessellated Pavement has been discovered.*

The earliest historical notice relating to this neighbourhood, occurs in the Saxon Chronicle, where a battle is mentioned to have been fought at the mouth of the Stour, between the fleet of King Alfred and sixteen Danish ships, in the year 885. The Danes were completely defeated, and every sail taken; but the English were soon afterwards worsted in a second engagement with a more powerful fleet of the enemy: their particular loss is not recorded.

Harwich

* Morant's Essex, Vol. I. p. 499.

Harwich did not attain any importance as a town, till after the time of the Conquest. Its first considerable increase arose from the decay of *Orwell*, which is recorded to have stood on the West-Rocks,* and to have been overwhelmed by the action of the sea, together with a large adjoining tract of land. Edward the Second, through the influence of his brother, Thomas de Brotherton, then Lord of the Manor, made it a borough corporate, and market town, by charter, dated in the year 1318. This charter was confirmed by various succeeding Monarchs; but a new one, with more ample privileges, and under which the civil jurisdiction is now exercised, was granted by James the First, in the twelfth year of his Sovereignty. By this the local government was vested in a Mayor, eight Aldermen, twenty-four capital Burgesses, a Recorder, and inferior Officers. The power of returning two Members to Parliament, which had been discontinued from the seventeenth of Edward the Third, was at the same time restored; the right of election being invested in the corporate officers.

This town consists of three principal streets, and various lanes branching off in different directions. Formerly it had several gates, and was surrounded by ancient walls; and two instances are upon record, of a toll having been levied, to repair or rebuild the latter, in the reign of Edward the Third. There was also a Castle here, and various small forts, or block-houses, but these are entirely destroyed; the sites of the latter are covered by the sea, which is slowly, though constantly, encroaching upon the land. Some fortifications on the land-side have been lately formed.

The *Church*, or rather Chapel, is dedicated to St. Nicholas, and was founded, about the commencement of the thirteenth century, by Roger Bigod, Earl of Norfolk. Within it, among other monuments, is one of good workmanship, to the memory of SIR WILLIAM CLARKE, Knt. Secretary of War to Charles the Second, who, in June 1666, was mortally wounded in the memorable sea fight between the fleets commanded by the Duke of Albe-marle, and the famous Dutch Admiral, De Ruyter. The other
principal

* See page 229.

principal buildings are the *Town-Hall* and *Gaol*; the *School-House*, and the *Custom-House*: the former was rebuilt about forty years ago.

The inhabitants of Harwich are chiefly supported by ship-building, and various maritime employments. The yard for building and repairing ships is very convenient, and furnished with the necessary store-houses, launches, &c. Here several third rates have been built, besides other large vessels of considerable burthen. The harbour is deep and spacious, and the anchorage good. Upwards of 100 sail of men of war, with frigates, and between 300 and 400 colliers, are recorded to have been riding here at one time without endangering each other.* For the safe guidance of vessels into the harbour, a *Light-House* has been erected on a hill below the town.

Many smacks belonging to this town are employed in the North-Sea fishery; their burthen has been calculated to amount to more than 3000 tons, and the number of seamen they employ to about 500. In addition to the advantages arising from this source of trade, the inhabitants derive considerable profit, particularly in times of peace, from the multitude of passengers that stop here on their way to and from Holland and Germany, this being the station of the packets between those countries and England. Harwich was the usual place of embarkation and landing of William the Third, and the Georges, First and Second, on their respective journies to the Continent, and return to Great Britain. Her present Majesty also landed here on her first entrance into this kingdom.

During the proper season, Harwich is visited by much company, who flock hither for the purpose of sea-bathing. The accommodations are respectable, though not equal to those at the more fashionable places of resort. Bathing machines have been introduced within these few years; and are more used, because it is the mode, than from necessity, as the private baths are very neat and convenient. These stand in a large reservoir of sea-water, which
is

* Tour through Great Britain, Vol. I. p. 48.

is changed by every tide, and supplied with fresh water every hour by a contrivance on the principle of a natural syphon. In two of the baths the sea-water is made hot for the use of invalids; for whose further accommodation a steam or vapor bath has also been constructed. Parties are frequently made by the visitors, for sailing up the Orwell and Stour, and making short trips on the bosom of the ocean. The scenery on the Orwell is extremely pleasant, its banks being studded with elegant villas and pleasure grounds.

On the south side of Harwich is a Cliff which divides Orwell Haven from the bay that extends to Walton-Ness: this contains many acres of land, and its greatest height is about fifty feet. At the bottom is a stratum of clay of a bluish color, about one foot thick, which is succeeded by a stratum of stone, of nearly the same color and thickness; within this some fossil shells and petrifactions are embedded. Above the stone are various strata of clay, similar to that already mentioned, rising to the height of somewhat more than twenty feet. The streets of Harwich are mostly paved with masses of this clay, which have fallen from the cliff, and become indurated by exposure to the air: the town-walls, as appears from their remains, were also formed of this substance, which, by lapse of time, assumes the hardness and durability of stone. Above the clay, adverting to within two feet of its surface, are different strata; as fine sand, and stone and gravel mixed with small pebbles, and blended with fossil shells of the bivalve and turbinate kinds: these are sometimes found separate, and sometimes in lumps and masses, intermixed with sand, and other adventitious bodies. The upper part of the cliff is common sandy-earth, in which a few veins of a "white friable substance," (supposed to be talc,) "resembling isinglass," have been found.* Various teeth of large animals, and bones of an extraordinary size, have been discovered in the fallen masses of this cliff. These are, by some writers, supposed to have belonged to the elephants brought into this country by Claudius in the year 43.

At

* Morant's Essex, Vol. I. p. 500.

At the south-east extremity of Suffolk, but still considered as belonging to this county, and immediately opposite to Harwich, is **LANGUARD FORT**, a very strong fortification, erected for the defence and security of this harbour in the reign of James the First. This is built upon a point of land, united to Walton-Colness, but so surrounded by the sea at high water, as to become an island nearly a mile from the shore. Tradition affirms that the outlets of the Stour and Orwell were anciently on the north side through Walton Marshes in Suffolk, and that the place called the *Fleets* was a part of the original channel. This is probably true; the violence of the sea, and the strength of the land-floods, having effected great changes on this coast. The soil not being favorable, the laying of the foundations of *Languard Fort* was only accomplished after considerable labor, and at a vast expence. It completely commands the entrance of the harbour, which, though between two and three miles wide at high-water, is too shallow to admit the passage of ships, excepting by a narrow and deep channel on the Suffolk side. At some distance from the fort, on a spot called, by Bishop Gibson, *Walton*, or *Felixstow Castle*, various fragments of urns, coins, and other Roman antiquities, have been dug up at different times. The inhabitants of *St. Nicholas* parish, as returned under the late act, were 2371; the houses 445. Formerly much copperas was manufactured in this district; but the decrease of the copperas-stone occasioned the business to be given up.

DOVER-COURT, about one mile south-west from Harwich, was, in the Catholic times, greatly celebrated for a miraculous *Rood*, or Crucifix, enshrined in the Church, which, from its supposed sanctity, attracted many visitors and pilgrims. Its power was thought to be so great, that the vulgar imagined any attempt to close the Church-doors upon it, would be attended with sudden death; they were therefore left open night and day. This fancied security proved fatal to three mis-judging, though well-meaning men, who, together with a fourth companion, that escaped, entered the Church by night, in the year 1532, and removed the *Rood* to the distance of a quarter of a mile, and burnt it;

being prompted to this action by a wish to prevent the idolatrous worship paid to it by the Catholics. For this act, denominated felony and sacrilege, they were condemned to die; and were hanged at different places, in this part of the county; but "the Spirit of God," observes Fox, "did more edify the people in godly learning, than all the sermons that had been preached there a long time before."* In the Church was also established a Guild, dedicated to St. George, the possessions of which were sold by Queen Elizabeth. The elms that grow in this parish are of a strong, knotted, and crooked kind, and famous for their durability when used in the construction of agricultural implements.

At WIX, or WICKES, between six and seven miles west from Dover-Court, was a *Nunnery* of the Benedictine order, founded in the reign of Henry the First, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary. This was suppressed under the Pope's Bull, granted to Cardinal Wolsey, and its revenues, then estimated at the annual value of 92l. 12s. 3d. appropriated towards the support of the College founded by Wolsey at Oxford. Soon afterwards the possessions of the Nunnery were conveyed to the Cardinal's College at Ipswich; but after Wolsey's fall, became vested in the Crown; and the site of the Nunnery was first granted, by Henry the Eighth, to Sir Adam Fortescue, and again to Edward Gilbert, Esq. with licence to alienate it to the *Veseys*, from whom it has passed through various families. No parts of the Nunnery are now remaining.

MISTLEY HALL, the residence of Francis Hale Rigby, Esq. is situated on a pleasant eminence, about one mile south from Manningtree, and at no considerable distance from the river Stour. This manor, at the time of the Domesday Survey, was held by the wife of Henry de Ramis; from whom it passed through several families, and, in the reign of Henry the Eighth, came into the possession of the Crown. Edward the Sixth granted it to Sir John Rainsforth, whose heirs sold it to Paul Viscount Bayning. Anne, his grand-daughter, conveyed it, by marriage, to Aubrey
de

* Fox's Acts and Monuments, Book II.

de Vere, the last Earl of Oxford, by whom the reversion was sold, about the year 1680, to Edward Rigby, Esq. from whom the present owner is descended. The Hall has been much improved by this family, and some elegant gardens and plantations laid out with great taste.

MANNINGTREE

Is a small irregular town, situated on the southern banks of the river Stour; and though only a chapelry in Mistley parish, has the privilege of a market. Whence it derived its present name is uncertain: its ancient appellation was *Sciddinchou*, and by that it is mentioned in the Domesday Book, at the period of compiling which, it was held by Adeliza, Countess of Albemarle, half-sister to the Conqueror. It afterwards became the property of Maud de Clare, Countess of Hereford and Gloucester, who bestowed the manor on the Nunnery of the order of St. Augustine, at Canon-Leigh, in Devonshire. After the Dissolution, Manningtree, called *Many-tree*, alias *Scidinghoo* in the grant, was given, by Henry the Eighth, to Sir John Rainsworth, and has descended from him in the same manner as Mistley-Hall. The river Stour was made navigable from this town to Sudbury, in Suffolk, by an act passed in the fourth and fifth of Queen Anne. Its principal imports are deals, corn, coals, iron, and fish. Here was formerly a Guild, dedicated to the Holy Trinity; the revenues of which were valued at 8l. 5s. 4d. per annum. In the certificate of chantry lands, this place is called "a great towne, and also a haven towne, having in yt to the number of 700 howseling people."

At DEDHAM, a decayed market-town, and famous for its clothing trade as early as the reign of Richard the Second, is a Free Grammar-School, founded about 1570, and endowed the following year for the education of twenty scholars, by William Littlebury, Gent. The donation was confirmed, and the Governors incorporated by charter of Queen Elizabeth, dated May the fourteenth, 1574. The Church is a handsome and spacious building.

The population of Dedham, as ascertained under the late act, was 1537; the number of houses, 303.

At LITTLE HORKESLEY, near the north side of the Church, was a *Priory*, now wholly destroyed, founded, in the reign of Henry the First, for Cluniac monks, by Robert Fitz-Godebold, and Beatrice, his wife. This was subordinate to the Monastery of that order at Thetford, in Norfolk: its revenues, when it was suppressed by Cardinal Wolsey, to support his College at Oxford, were valued at 27l. 7s. 11d. annually.

STANWAY, so named from its situation on the *Stoneway*, or Roman military road leading from Stortford, through Dunmow, Braintree, and Coggeshall, to Colchester, was anciently the property of Earl Harold, and at that time the chief of a very extensive district. It is now divided into various manors, the possessions of different families. In this parish, "on the south side of the London road, were found, in the year 1764, a number of large bones, vertebræ, and tibiæ, with their joints, lying in a stratum of sea-sand, and small shells. This bed was about a yard thick; and above it another of ooze, or river mud, of three inches in thickness, over which were several veins of yellow sand, gravel, and mould: the tibiæ were much corroded, but the other bones perfectly well polished."*

The manor of GREAT TEY was, in the tenth century, possessed by the Saxon Earl Alfgar, whose youngest daughter, Æthelfleda, conveyed it to Duke Athelstan by marriage. On the death of this nobleman, it was given to the Monastery of Stoke, near Neyland; but at the period of the Domesday Survey, it was possessed by Eustace, Earl of Boulogne, whose grand-daughter, Maud, married Stephen, Earl of Blois, afterwards King of England. Stephen gave it to his third son, William, who, in the year 1162, granted it to Richard de Lucy, Chief Justice of England, by whose daughter, Maud, it was conveyed, with many other estates in Essex, Norfolk, and Suffolk, to her husband, Walter Fitz-Robert, ancestor of the noble family of the Fitz-

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Y

Walters,

* Gough's Additions to the Britannia, Vol. II. p. 59.

Walters, who retained it till the death of Robert, Lord Fitz-Walter, in the year 1432. Soon afterwards it was possessed by Sir John Montgomery, Knt. whose daughter, Philippa, married Francis Bryan, Esq. who, in 1532, had licence to sell it to the Lord Chancellor Audley. In his family it continued till the year 1704, when it was sold to George Cressener, Esq. of London, whose son disposed of it to Thomas Astle, Esq. the late eminent antiquary.

This manor is of considerable extent, being about seventeen miles in circumference: the lands, which are mostly arable, are remarkably productive, and have long been in a state of high cultivation. The villain, or copyhold tenants, belonging to this manor, were bound by their tenures to plough the Lord's land, to mow his grass, to reap his corn, and to cut underwood in his grounds for firing. They were also obliged to make the Lord's fences round his woods within the manor, but were permitted to enter one rod within the woods to cut the underwood for that purpose; the surplus materials being allowed them for their own use. Many estates in this manor were subject to the *Marcheta Mulierum*, which custom has commonly been supposed to be a right which the Lord had of passing the first night after marriage with his female villain. "The best historians," says Mr. Astle,* "as well as several foreign authors, have given many marvellous particulars concerning this custom; but, on diligent enquiry, I am of opinion, that this kind of intercourse between the Lord and his female villain never existed. I am persuaded the *Marcheta* was a compact between the Lord of the Manor and his villain, for the redemption of an offence committed by the unmarried daughter of his vassal; but more generally it was a fine paid by a sokeman, or a villain, to his lord, for a licence to marry his daughter; and if the vassal gave her away without obtaining such licence, he was liable to pay a fine. The probable reason of the custom appears to have been this: persons of low rank residing on an estate, were

generally

* Illustrations of the tenures and customs of this manor, by Mr. Astle; printed in the *Archæologia*, Vol. XII. p. 25—40.

generally either *ascripti glebæ*, or were subjected to some species of service similar to the *ascripti glebæ*; the tenants were bound to reside on the estate, and to perform several services to the lord. As women necessarily followed the residences of their husbands, the consequence was, that when a woman of low rank married a stranger, the lord was deprived of part of his live stock; he therefore required a fine to indemnify him for the loss of his property. In process of time, this composition was thrown into the aggregate sum of quit rents, as appears by an ancient survey of this manor."

MARKS-HALL, about three miles west from Great Tey, was, in the time of the Conqueror, held under Hugh de Montford, by Nigel, whose family afterwards became the chief lords of the manor, and obtained the name of Merkeshall from their place of residence. This family possessed the estate till the beginning of the reign of Elizabeth; when it was sold to John Cole, Esq. whose son and heir again sold it to Edward Deraugh, Esq. His youngest son, William, succeeding his father, disposed of this manor, in the year 1605, to Robert Honywood, Esq. of Charing, in Kent, whose posterity still enjoy it. The manor-house was partly rebuilt by the latter gentleman, who erected a new and handsome front, over the porch of which are various quarterings of the family arms. It stands on a rising ground, near the Church, in a pleasant park, which has been much improved by Filmer Honywood, Esq. the present proprietor, and one of the representatives for the county of Kent, who having lost his election for that shire in 1796, made this his principal residence. In the Dining-Room is an original portrait of MRS. MARY HONYWOOD, mother to the first of that name who owned this estate. She is arrayed in a widow's habit, with a book in her hand; and on her hat is inscribed in golden letters, *ÆTATIS SUÆ 70; ANO DNI. 1597*. This lady became memorable from her great age, and the multitude of her lawful descendants, whom she saw before her death, which happened in 1620, in her ninety-third year. The number of her own children was sixteen; of her grand-children, 114; of her great grand-children, 228; and of those in the fourth generation, nine; in all

367. Though she lived to such a great age, she was much oppressed by religious melancholy; and a singular story, connected with this affliction, is related by Fuller, on the authority of Morton, Bishop of Durham; to whom she herself told it. He observes, "that being much afflicted in mind, many ministers repaired to her, and, among the rest, Mr. John Fox, the Martyrologist; but that all his counsels proved ineffectual; insomuch, that, in the agony of her soul, having a Venice glass in her hand, she burst out into this expression, 'I am as surely damned as this glass is broken!' which she immediately threw with violence to the ground; but the glass rebounded again, and was taken up whole, and entire, being still preserved in the family." She was buried in the village Church, where a monument was erected to her memory, on which she is represented kneeling.

COGGESHALL

Is is a market town, partly situated on low ground, near the north side of the river Blackwater, and partly on the acclivity of a pleasant hill rising on the same side. Morant affirms, that "it owes its existence to the abbey, whose foundation here drew round it a number of inhabitants and dependants:" but some other antiquaries, and particularly Mr. Drake, suppose it to have been of Roman origin: indeed, this gentleman argues strongly in favour of its being the *Canonium* of Antoninus.* Its distance, he observes, exactly answers to the numbers of the Itinerary, which places Canonium between Camulodunum and Cæsaromagus: the latter he supposes to be Dunmow, from which a military way runs in a direct line to Colchester. The opinion of Coggeshall being the station Canonium, he endeavors to corroborate by mentioning some Roman coins, and other antiquities, that have been found in this vicinity. Among the latter was an "arched vault of bricke, and therein a burning lampe of glasse, covered with a Roman tyle some fourteen inches square, and one urn with ashes

* *Archæologia*, Vol. 5. p. 137—142.

ashes and bones; besides two sacrificing dishes of polished red earth, having the bottom of one of them with faire Roman letters, inscribed COCCILIM.* In a place called Westfield, also, "three quarters of a mile from Coggeshall, and belonging to the Abbey, was found, by touching of a plough, a great brazen pot, the mouth of which was closed with a white substance like paste or clay, as hard as burnt brick: when that was by force removed, there was found another pot, of earth; and within it a lesser pot, of earth, of the quantity of a gallon, covered with a matter like velvet, and fastened at the mouth with a silk lace: in it were some whole bones, and many pieces of small bones, wrapped up in fine silk."† These remains, though judged insufficient, by the best informed antiquaries, to prove that Coggeshall was the actual site of a Roman station, are yet admitted as evidence of its having been a Roman villa.

In the reign of Edward the Confessor, this lordship belonged to Colo, a Saxon; but at the time of the Domesday Survey, it was held by Eustace, Earl of Boulogne, whose heiress, Maud, conveyed it to the Crown by her marriage with Stephen, Earl of Blois, afterwards King of England. In the year 1142, Stephen, and his Queen, founded an ABBEY here, near the river, for Cistercian Monks; and having dedicated it to the Virgin Mary, endowed it with this and other manors. In 1203, King John granted the Abbot, and his Convent, permission to inclose and impark their wood at Coggeshall; and in 1247, they obtained liberty of free-warren from Henry the Third; who also invested them with the privileges of holding a market weekly, and an eight days annual fair. In the reign of Edward the Third, the monks founded a chantry in their church, to pray daily for the King, the Queen, and their issue; in consideration of which, the Sovereign, on the eleventh of January, 1344, granted them a hogshead of *Red Wine*,

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* Weever's Funeral Monuments, p. 118. "*Coccilim* is only the potter's mark, and not peculiar to the vessels found here, since it occurs on others in England, and elsewhere." *Gough's Additions to the Britannia*, Vol. 2. p. 56.

† Weever's Fun. Mon. p. 119.

to be delivered in London by the King's gentleman of the wine cellar, every year at Easter.* A second chantry was founded here, in 1407, by Joan de Bohun, Countess of Hereford, and others, who bestowed some valuable estates upon the monks for its support. On the surrender of the Abbey, February the fifth, 1538, its annual revenues were, according to Speed, valued at 298l. 8s. In the same year Henry the Eighth granted the manor of Coggeshall, and other estates, to Sir Thomas Seymour, brother of Edward, Duke of Somerset, who, in 1541, exchanged them with the King. Since that period this manor has been divided, and passed through various families. Only a small part of the Abbey is now remaining: near it is a bridge of three arches, originally built by King Stephen, over a channel that was cut to convey the water of the river nearer to the Abbey.

Coggeshall was formerly very celebrated for its clothing trade, and particularly for a kind of baize of superior fine stuff, manufactured here, and called Coggeshall Whites: but this business has been on the decline many years, though it still furnishes some employment to the labouring inhabitants. The population of this town, as ascertained under the late act, was 2469; the number of houses 593.

The *Church* is a spacious edifice, dedicated to St. Peter, and has a large square tower at the west end: near it are three un-endowed alms-houses. Among the benefactions given for the support and education of the poor inhabitants, is the annual sum of 150l. payable by the Master and Fellows of Pembroke Hall, Cambridge, out of the estates bequeathed to that College for charitable purposes, by Sir Robert Hitcham, Knt. in the year 1636.

LITTLE COGGESHALL, now a hamlet to Coggeshall, was formerly a distinct parish, and had two Churches; one of them erected by the monks of St. Mary's Abbey, in the field called the Park, for their own use; the other as a regular parish church: The former has long been demolished; but the latter is now used as a barn.

In

* Morant's Essex, Vol. 2. p. 163.

In the small Church of BRADWELL, about two miles south from Coggeshall, is an elaborate monument, of various colored marble, to the memory of SIR ANTHONY MAXEY and his Lady, who possessed this manor in the reign of Queen Elizabeth. The cornice is supported by pillars of the Corinthian order: on the left, beneath an arch, are the effigies of Sir Anthony and his Lady, kneeling; and on the right, the figures of his son and daughter-in-law, in similar postures. Several others of this family were also buried here.

BLACK NOTLEY, near Braintree, is renowned as the birth-place of the learned WILLIAM BEDELL, Bishop of Kilmore, in Ireland; and of the yet more celebrated naturalist, MR. JOHN RAY. The former was born in the year 1570, and was educated at Emanuel College, Cambridge, where he obtained a Fellowship at the age of twenty-three. In 1604, he became Chaplain to Sir Henry Wotten, and accompanied that gentleman on his embassy to the republic of Venice, where he obtained the friendship of the famous Antonio de Dominis, Archbishop of Spalatro, whom he assisted in the book intituled, *De Republica Ecclesiastica*. He also contracted a close intimacy with Father Paul Sarpi, who presented him with his manuscript History of the Council of Trent, and other valuable writings. In the year 1627, he was elected Provost of Trinity College, Dublin, and two years afterwards, preferred to the Sees of Kilmore and Ardagh; but being inimical to pluralities, he resigned the latter bishopric. His episcopal character was exemplary; and by his firm, yet conciliating endeavors, he effected a considerable reformation in the conduct of the inhabitants of his diocese, which had been previously considered as one of the most turbulent and licentious in Ireland. The Book of Common Prayer was, through his influence, translated into the Irish language; as was also the New Testament; but the former only was published in his time. On the breaking out of the Rebellion in 1641, our Prelate was not at first molested, from the reverence which his character had excited in the minds of the common people; but he was afterwards seized, and imprisoned, for having refused to deliver up some Protestants whom he had

sheltered in his house. He died at the end of February, in the same year, and was interred in the Church-Yard at Kilmore.

JOHN RAY, M. A. was born in the year 1624. His father, who pursued the humble occupation of a Blacksmith, perceiving that his son possessed a vigorous genius, sent him to school at Braintree, and thence to Cambridge, where he was admitted into Catherine Hall, but afterwards removed to Trinity College. Here he became distinguished for his skill in natural history, and particularly for his knowledge of botany, which grew into a favorite study, and was pursued with particular avidity, from his example. His industry, and steady application, obtained him much renown; and the better to increase his acquaintance with the works of Nature, but especially those of the vegetable kingdom, he made several journies through the chief part of Great Britain. He also visited various countries on the Continent with the same intention, accompanied by the great Willughby, who was likewise his companion in several of his home journies. It is remarkable, that the sublime and beautiful scenery of Nature, which has of late given eloquence to the pen of so many travellers, was, in the time of Ray, entirely disregarded; and it has been observed, with equal propriety and truth, that though our naturalist, in his different excursions, "passed through the vallies of Derbyshire, ascended the mountains of North Wales, and beheld the glories of the Cumberland lakes; yet, from the whole of his itineraries,* not a single sentence can be gleaned expressive of that wonder and delight with which every one at the present day is irresistibly affected."† Towards the latter part of his life, Mr. Ray removed from Cambridge to this his native place, where he died in 1706, in his seventy-eighth year. He was buried in the Church-Yard; where a neat pedestal monument was erected to his memory, at the expence of Henry Compton, Bishop of London. It is inscribed with an elegant Latin epitaph, which has been thus translated:

Though

* Published in the "Select Remains," with his life, by Dr. Durham, portrait, &c. 8vo. 1760.

† Annual Review, Vol. I. p. 450.

Though in this narrow tomb the illustrious RAY
 Inhumed lies, fast mould'ring into clay,
 O'er the wide world his works their beams display,
 As bright and everlasting as the day :
 To those just Fame ascribes immortal breath,
 And in his writings he outlives his death.
 Of ev'ry science, ev'ry part he knew ;
 Read in all arts, divine and human too ;
 Like Solomon, and Solomon alone,
 We as a greater king of knowledge own,
 Our modern sage dark Nature's secrets read,
 From the tall cedar to the hyssop's bed ;
 From the unwieldiest beast of land or deep,
 To the least insect that has power to creep.
 Nor did his artful labors only show
 Those plants which on the earth's wide surface grow,
 But, piercing e'en her darkest entrails through,
 All that was wise, all that was great he knew,
 And Nature's inmost gloom made clear to common view.
 From foreign stores his learning brought supplies,
 Exposing treasures hid from other eyes ;
 And in his wisdom was his country wise.
 But, what's yet more, he was so meekly great,
 That Envy unrepining saw his state ;
 For, rare accomplishment, his humble mind
 Possess'd a jewel which it could not find.
 A high descent lent nothing to his fame ;
 Virtue, not birth, distinguish'd his great name ;
 Titles and wealth he never strove to gain,
 These he would rather merit than obtain.
 His private life in humble shades he spent ;
 Worthy a palace, with a cell content :
 Unwearied, he would knowledge still pursue ;
 The only thing in which no mean he knew.
 What more did add to these bright gifts, we find
 Him blest with an untainted purity of mind ;
 England's blest Church engross'd his zealous care,
 A truth his dying accents did declare.
 Thus lost he in retirement his great breath ;
 Thus dy'd he living, who thus lives in death ;
 Thus has Heav'n call'd his age's glory home,
 And the bright wonder of the age to come.

J. Ray { was born 29. Nov. 1628.
 { dyed 17. Jan. 1706.

Mr.

Mr. Ray was the author of several esteemed works: those most in request, are 'The Wisdom of God manifested in the Works of the Creation;' 'Discourses on the Chaos,' &c. '*Synopsis Methodica Stirpium Britannicarum*;' 'Catalogue of English Plants;' '*Synopsis Methodica Avium et Piscium*, &c.'

Several fragments of antiquity were dug up in a field at Black Notley in the year 1752: among them was an oblong blue glass vessel, with white bands running round it at unequal distances; various pieces of earthen-ware; a copper vessel with a small neck, and globular body; and another fragment of copper, like a fluted column, terminated at one end with a ram's head, and in its general resemblance similar to one given by Count Caylus (I. xcii. 4.) as a knife handle.*

BRAINTREE

Is a large straggling town, situated on rising ground, and connected on the north with *Bocking*, or *Bocking Street*, one of the most considerable villages in Essex. In the Domesday Book, this manor is comprehended under the name of *Raines*, and was then held by the Bishop of London, to whose See it continued attached till the reign of Edward the Sixth, when it was granted by that Monarch to Robert, Lord Rich. In this family it remained till the year 1673, when, on the death of Charles, Earl of Warwick, it became the property of his sister and co-heiress, the Lady Frances, wife to Nicholas, son and heir to Sir Francis Leak, Earl of Scarsdale, whose successor, Robert, sold this estate, in 1701, to Herman Olmuis, Esq. ancestor to the late Lord Waltham. The ancient manor-house was a palace of the Bishops of London, but has long been destroyed.

Braintree was made a distinct parish about the time of King John, or Henry the Third; the former of whom constituted it a market-town, through the interest of William de St. Maria, Bishop of London. At that period, however, it was only a hamlet to
Raines,

* Gough's Additions to the Britannia, Vol. II. p. 55.

Raines, and the parish itself was called Great Raine; but, from the increase of houses and population, Braintree at length became the chief place, and gave its own name to the district. Its rise is supposed to be owing to its convenient situation on the high road from London into Suffolk and Norfolk, and to the building of inns and lodging-houses for the reception of the numerous pilgrims from the south, who, in the days of superstition, were continually travelling to the shrines of St. Edmund, and our Lady of Walsingham. After the Reformation, the town was deserted of its visitors; but again obtained consequence from the Flenings, who settled here in the reign of Elizabeth, after being expelled from the Netherlands by the Duke of Alva, and who first introduced the bay and say manufacture: this business is still carried on here, but not to so great an extent as formerly. The government of the town is vested in a select vestry, composed of twenty-four parishioners, who, as early as the year 1584, were styled Governors of the Town, and Town Magistrates.

The *Church* is a spacious structure, on the south side of the town, occupying a high spot of ground, which appears to have been the site of a camp. It consists of a nave, chancel, and side aisles, having a lofty spire rising from a tower at the west end, cased with slate: the body of the edifice is mostly flint. This fabric was founded in the reign of Edward the Third, as appears from the arms which decorate it, of the neighbouring gentry who lived at that time; and also from the Will of John de Naylinghurst, who, in 1349, bequeathed a "*Black Bullock* towards the work of the Church." It has since been greatly enlarged, particularly in the reign of Henry the Eighth, when the roof was heightened, and the south aisle built. The expence of these alterations was partly defrayed by receipts arising from the performance of three Plays acted in the Church. The first Play, intituled *St. Swithin*, was acted in 1523; the second, named *St. Andrew*, on the Sunday before Relique Sunday, in 1525; and the third, called *Placy Dacy, alias St. Ewestacy*, in 1534. After the Reformation, the Players' robes were sold by the Churchwardens

dens for fifty shillings, and the play-books for twenty shillings.* In the chancel is an inscription to the memory of DR. SAMUEL COLLINS, who was the son of a minister of this parish, and for some years principal Physician to Peter the Great, Czar of Muscovy.

This town abounds with dissenters of different denominations. The streets are mostly narrow, and incommodious; and many of the buildings are of timber, and very old. The number of houses, as returned under the act of 1802, was 454; of inhabitants, 2821. Various bequests have been made for the service of the poor; the most celebrated, though not the most valuable, was the gift of Henry Smith, Esq. Alderman and Salter, of London, who, in the reign of Charles the First, left 2800*l.* to purchase an estate in this county; the proceeds to be distributed among the poor of the five parishes of Braintree, Henham, Terling, Tolleshunt-D'Arcy, and Dover-Court.

BOCKING principally consists of one long street, extending along the high road, and containing several good houses, inhabited by respectable families. In the reign of King Ethelred, it was possessed by Æthelric and Leofwine, two noble Saxons, who, in the year 1006, granted it, with other lands, to St. Saviour's Priory, Canterbury, for the support of the monks. St. Saviour's was then the name of the Cathedral Church in that city, though, when it was rebuilt by Archbishop Lanfranc, after its destruction by the Danes in 1011, it was dedicated to the Holy Trinity, and by that appellation it occurs in the Domesday Book, as being in possession of *Bockinge*. It continued attached to that See till the Dissolution, when Henry the Eighth alienated it, in the year 1540, to Roger Wentworth, Gent. and Alice, his wife, in consideration of 875*l.* 11*s.* 3*d.* Roger, the great-grandson, married two wives; by the second of whom, Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Robert Barker, of Grimston Hall, Suffolk, this manor passed to Sir Thomas Barker, her brother, whose son, Sir William, mortgaged it to Prisca Cobourne, Widow, of Stratford-le-Bow. To
this

* Morant's Essex, Vol. II. p. 399.

this lady the mortgaged premises were decreed by the Court of Chancery, about the latter end of the seventeenth century; and in 1701, by Will, dated May the sixth, she bequeathed them to the Corporation of the Sons of the Clergy, towards the maintenance of the poor widows and orphan children seeking relief from that establishment.

The principal trade of this extensive village, in addition to what arises from the passage of goods between the Metropolis and the more eastern counties, is the manufacture of baize; though this has greatly decreased within the last fifty or sixty years. On the river Pant, named the Blackwater, in the lower part of its course, which flows through it, are several fulling and corn mills. The number of houses, in 1802, was 623; that of inhabitants, 2680.

The *Church* is a spacious building, standing on an eminence, between one and two miles north-west from Bocking-Street. It is dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and supposed to have been built about the time of Edward the Third. Before the Reformation, it contained three altars, and five chantries. In the south aisle are the effigies of a man and woman, supposed to represent some of the Doreward family, who possessed a subordinate manor in this parish during the greater part of the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries; and one of whom, John Doreward, Esq. founded and endowed an *Hospital* here for seven poor people, in the reign of Henry the Sixth. This *Hospital* still exists; and also a *Charity-School*, endowed by Dr. Gauden, Bishop of Worcester, for educating thirty poor boys.

Bocking is a peculiar belonging to the Archbishop of Canterbury, being only subject to his jurisdiction, or to that of his Commissary, who is called Dean of Bocking. It is also considered as the chief of the four peculiars in this county, and of the three in Suffolk, which belong to the See of Canterbury.

RAINE, formerly called Little Raine, to distinguish it from Great Raine, or Braintree, is pleasantly situated about two miles west from the latter. The *Church* is an ancient building, supposed to have been founded soon after the separation of the parishes, and was very famous, in the Catholic times, for an Altar and Chapel,

erected in the south aisle to the honor of the Virgin Mary. This Altar was much frequented by pregnant women, who sought, by their supplications to the Virgin, to obtain a safe delivery; and, according to tradition, with such great success, that the advice to "go ere long, and say your prayers at Raine," became a common proverb.

At PANTFIELD, a small, yet pleasant village, near the river Pant, whence it derived its name, a PRIORY of Benedictine monks, subordinate to the Abbey of St. Stephen's, at Caen, in Normandy, to which this manor was given by Waleran Fitz-Ralph, in the time of the Conqueror, was founded before the year 1250, when the monks obtained licence of free-warren. On the suppression of Alien Priories, in the reign of Henry the Fifth, this manor was granted to John Woodhouse, of Norfolk, to hold by the service of a *Red Rose*. It afterwards reverted to the Crown; and was again granted by a similar tenure, by Edward the Fourth, to Gresild, widow of John Hende, Esq. who alienated it to Cardinal Bouchier, Archbishop of Canterbury. By this Prelate it was given to the Cathedral at Canterbury; but, after the general Suppression, it was bestowed, by Henry the Eighth, on Sir Giles Capell, of Raine-Hall, and has since passed through various families.

GOSFIELD, an extensive parish to the west of Halsted, is not mentioned in the Domesday Book, it being included in the adjacent lordships till about the time of Henry the Second, when it was made a distinct parish. The lands are divided into nine manors, and were originally held by different families, but became united in the reign of Richard the Second; and though again separated in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, have once more become the property of an individual, the present Marquis of Buckingham.

GOSFIELD HALL, a seat of this nobleman, was, very soon after the Conquest, in the possession of Robert de Clare, Earl of Gloucester, and is still part of the Honour of Clare, to which it pays acknowledgment. From this family it was alienated to the *Veres*, Earls of Oxford, and held of them by Adam de Gosfield: but, in the reigns

of Edward the First and Second, it was the property of John Bel-
lowes, Chevalier, whose name appears to have been given to the
lordship. It afterwards passed to the *Rolfes*; and from them, by
an heiress, to the *Wentworths*, of Lodham Hall, of whom Sir
Roger was Sheriff of this county in the year 1499. The heiress
of the latter family married Richard, second son of Lord Ryche;
from whom it passed to the Lords Grey; but, at the beginning of
the eighteenth century, was sold to the *Millingtons*; and again in
a short time to John Knight, Esq. who dying in 1733, bequeath-
ed this manor and lordship to Anne, his wife, second daughter to
James Craggs, Esq. Three years afterwards, this lady married
Robert Nugent, Esq. afterwards Earl Nugent, from whom, in
1788, these estates became the property of George, Marquis of
Buckingham, the present proprietor, who inherits in right of his
lady. The mansion called *Gosfield Hall*,* though greatly altered,
presents an interesting specimen of the domestic architecture that
prevailed in the construction of the residences of the nobility du-
ring the reign of Henry the Seventh, who strictly enforced the
ancient prerogative of the Crown, which had been compounded
by the usurper Stephen, in prohibiting his subjects from erecting
Castles; yet here, as in other cases, where the restraints of the
law proved an insufficient security against the violence of the
times, its provisions were evaded; and the houses erected at the
above period, though not coming within the description of a for-
tress, were equally as strong, and well secured, as many of the
baronial Castles. This building was a large pile of brick, inclosing
a quadrangular court; into which all the lower tier of windows
opened. There were not any windows on the ground-floor of the
outside; and those of the upper stories being strongly barricadoed,

no

* The annexed Prints, presented to this Work by that liberal patron of An-
tiquarian and Topographical History, the Marquis of Buckingham, represent
the most peculiar characteristics in the ancient part of this mansion. Plate 1.
is the West front: the two lower windows do not belong to the original build-
ing, but have been lately introduced. The entrance in the centre was protected
by windows projecting from closets, from which assailants could be opposed
without danger. Plate 2 displays the Interior of the Quadrangle.

no admittance could be forced but with great difficulty. The west side of the quadrangle remains nearly in its original state; but the north, east, and south fronts, were built by John Knight, Esq. who owned the estate at the beginning of the last century. Various alterations have been made by the late Lord Nugent; and additional improvements have been effected under the direction of the present noble proprietor; the east and south sides having been enlarged by different rooms and passages. The House, as originally built, consisted of only one room in thickness; and consequently there was no other communication round the inside, but by passing through every room. The west side is yet in this state; and the first floor is occupied by a long gallery, 106 feet in length, and twelve in width: this gallery is called *Queen Elizabeth's*, in commemoration of that Sovereign having twice visited the Lady Ryche at Gosfield.

The principal paintings that were in this mansion have been removed to Stowe: a few good pictures still remain in the *Breakfast Room*; and in the *Dining-Room* are many valuable original portraits, particularly of GEORGE the First; JOHN, Duke of Marlborough; RUSSEL, Earl of Oxford; WILLIAM, Earl of Cadogan; JOHN, Duke of Argyle; FREDERICK, Prince of Wales; the Lord Chancellor SHAFTESBURY; RICHARD, Viscount Cobham; SIR WILLIAM WYNDHAM; and DR. HALLEY. In the *Library* is an ancient sculptured Chimney-Piece in stone, deserving notice from its subject and execution. It represents, in bold relief, the memorable Battle of Bosworth Field, between Richard the Third and the Earl of Richmond; and contains twenty-four figures on horseback, with the King lying prostrate under his own charger. Most of the personages introduced are known by the armorial bearings on the shields. Among others, are the Duke of Norfolk, the Earls of Surry and Northumberland, Sir Simon Digby, Sir Walter Blount, Sir William Herbert, Lord Stanley, Sir George Stanley, Sir William Brandon, Lord Edward Stafford, Sir Gilbert Talbot, Sir R. Ratcliffe, Sir J. Tyrrell, Edward Lord Lovel, and the Earl of Oxford. At the extremities of the Chimney-Piece are small statues of Henry the Seventh and his Queen,
exactly

exactly resembling those on the monument at Westminster Abbey. The exact date of this sculpture is uncertain, but it is known to be of considerable antiquity, it having been removed, in the year 1687, from Bois' Hall, a small house, belonging to the Earls of Oxford, one of whom was a partizan of the Earl of Richmond. In the *Green Velvet* apartments are various portraits of the Craggs' family; among them, those of JAMES CRAGGS, Esq. Postmaster General; the Right Hon. JAMES CRAGGS, Secretary of State; MRS. CRAGGS, his mother, sister to Major-General Richards; and MAJOR-GENERAL RICHARDS.

The Park at Gosfield is extensive, and contains many fine old trees: it is also ornamented by a noble sheet of water, that was enlarged, to the extent of 102 acres, by the late Lord Nugent.

At a short distance from the Hall, to the east, is the village Church, in which is a small Chapel, or Chantry, built by Thomas Rolfe, Esq. and repaired, in the year 1560, by Sir John Wentworth, as a burial-place for his family. Adjoining the Chantry is a private Chapel, in which is a large marble monument to the memory of JOHN KNIGHT, Esq. who died in 1733, at the age of fifty, executed by Scheemaker, under the direction of Pope, who also wrote the epitaph, which is as follows:

O! fairest pattern to a falling age,
Whose public virtue knew no party rage;
Whose private name all titles recommend,
The pious son, fond husband, faithful friend.
In manners plain, in sense alone refin'd;
Good without show, and without weakness kind:
To Reason's equal dictates ever true;
Calm to resolve, and constant to pursue;
In life with ev'ry social grace adorn'd;
In death by Friendship, Honour, Virtue, mourn'd!

On the pedestal are short inscriptions, that have been added in commemoration of Robert, Earl Nugent; Lieutenant-Colonel Edmund Nugent, his son; Margaret Nugent, his sister; and Anne Craggs, who was first married to James Newsham, Esq. secondly, to John Knight, Esq. and lastly, to Robert Nugent, Esq. after-

wards Earl Nugent. She died in 1756, aged fifty-nine. In the chancel are two ancient tombs; one for Sir Roger Wentworth and his lady, who died between the years 1534 and 1539; the other for Sir John Wentworth and his lady. Here is also a large table monument, of Purbeck marble, to the memory of Sir Richard, second son of Lord Ryche, who married the heiress of the Wentworths. The *Parsonage* is a neat, convenient dwelling, adjoining the Church, and is now possessed by the Rev. J. Thurlow, who has studied, with laudable attention, the nature of the soils, and the mode of cultivation, best adapted for this part of the county. About half a mile east from the Church is GOSFIELD PLACE, a handsome modern building, with nearly 200 acres of land surrounding it, the seat and property of James Goodeve Sparrow, Esq.

HALSTEAD

Is a large and populous town, pleasantly situated near the river Colne, on the acclivity of a gravelly eminence, and deriving its name from two Saxon words, signifying *healthy place*. In Edward the Confessor's time, it was held by Earl Godwin, and divers sokemen and freemen; but on the Conquest, it appears to have been divided among the then Norman chiefs, Richard Fitz-Gilbert, Earl of Brion; William de Waren, Earl of Waren, and afterwards of Surrey; and Robert Malet, who had also the barony of Aye in Suffolk.

The market here was probably established in the Saxon times, as a hill at the upper end of the town, on which it was held for several centuries after the Conquest, has the name of *Cheping Hill*. Till the year 1251 it appears to have belonged to the Crown; but about that time, Henry the Third granted it to Abel de St. Martin, who held two Knights'-fees in Halstead and Belchamp, of Richard de Clare, Earl of Gloucester and Hertford, who inherited this manor from Richard Fitz-Gilbert. Hugh de Vere, fourth Earl of Oxford, indicted Abel de St. Martin for setting up a market at Halstead to his prejudice, as being too near his own mar-

kets at Castle Hedingham, and Earl's Colne; but the difference was adjusted, on Abel's consenting to pay half a mark yearly to the Earl, and proving his right to a market at Halstead, both by prescription and the King's grant. About this period, it appears to have been held somewhere on the King's highway; but it was now removed to its ancient station on Cheping Hill, where it continued till the reign of Elizabeth, when it was again removed, and fixed in its present situation, near the centre of the town.

The *Church*, dedicated to St. Andrew, is an old building, consisting of a nave, chancel, and side aisles, with a tower and spire at the west end. The spire is of wood, and is the third that has been erected on the present tower, the two former having been struck by lightning, and destroyed. The second spire was raised, in the year 1717, at the expence of Mr. Samuel Firke, an Apothecary of this town, on which occasion the following lines were written by Prior :

View not this spire by measure giv'n
To buildings rais'd by common hands ;
That fabric rises high as Heav'n,
Whose basis on devotion stands.

While yet we draw this vital breath,
We can our hope and faith declare;
But charity beyond our death
Will ever in our works appear.

Blest be he call'd among good men,
Who to his God this column rais'd ;
Tho' lightning shake the spire again,
The man who built it shall be prais'd.

Yet spires and towers in dust shall lie,
The weak efforts of human pains ;
And Faith and Hope themselves shall die,
While deathless Charity remains.

A Chantry was founded in this Church, for a Master and five Priests, by Bartholomew, Lord Bourchier, under a licence obtained from Edward the Third, in 1340, by ROBERT BOUR-

CHIER, Earl of Essex, and Lord Chancellor of England, who was buried here, and whose monument is supposed to be in the south aisle, together with another ancient tomb of the *Bourchiers*, on which are the effigies of a Knight cross-legged, and his lady. A third tomb, of a similar description, was removed between fifty and sixty years ago. In the chancel is a monument inscribed to the memory of SIR SAMUEL TRYON, Knt. and Bart. a former owner of this manor, who died in 1626. The College for the Chantry Priests is yet standing near the middle of the town: its revenues, at the time of the Suppression, were valued at 34l. 4s. 3d. annually.

Among the charitable benefactions made to this town, is a *Grammar-School*, founded, in the year 1594, by Dame Mary Ramsey, for forty poor children of Halstead and Colne-Engaine; or, in default of a sufficient number from these places, the number wanted to be chosen from the children of the poor inhabitants within the circuit of eight miles of the former. The direction of this School was vested, by the foundress, in the Governors, &c. of Christ's Hospital, London. The population of Halstead, as ascertained in the year 1802, amounted to 3380; the houses to 784. At a house in this parish is a Greek inscription, brought from a village near Smyrna, where it was erected 150 years before Christ, to the honor of Crato, a musician.

COLNE-ENGAINÉ, a small village, called Little Colne in the Domesday Book, received the appellation of Engaine from a respectable family of that name, who possessed lands here from the year 1218 to 1367, when it became extinct. The *Church* is an ancient fabric, pleasantly situated on an eminence: at the west end is a handsome brick tower, built in the reign of Henry the Seventh, which, on the east side, has the figure of a mullet, one of the badges of the De Veres, Earls of Oxford. The number of inhabitants, as returned under the late act, was 104; of these about twenty-three families derive sustenance from spinning wool for the baize manufacturers at Coggeshall and Colchester.

COLNE PARK, in this parish, is the seat and property of Philip Hills, Esq. to whom it was devised by the son of Mr. M.

Hills, of Colchester, who purchased it, in the year 1762, of Sir Thomas R. Gage, of Coldham Hall, in Suffolk. The mansion is a handsome building of white brick, erected in 1775, and stands on a rising ground, surrounded with woods and plantations. It is situated in the centre of a manor called Shrives, or Sherreves, which obtained that appellation from a family so named, who held it in the reign of Edward the First. It was afterwards possessed by the Priory and Convent of St. Botolph's, Colchester; but in 1506, was the property of John de Vere, Earl of Oxford, whose successors retained it till most of the family estates were alienated by the seventeenth Earl. North from the mansion is a column of Portland stone, of the Ionic order, erected by J. Soane, Esq. architect, in the year 1791. This demesne includes about 110 acres.

EARLS-COLNE, called also Great Colne, and Colne Monachorum, obtained the appellation of *Earls* from the De Veres, who, with little interruption, were lords of the manor from the Norman Conquest till the year 1583, when it was sold by Edward, the seventeenth Earl, to his steward, Roger Harlackenden, of an ancient family, settled at Woodchurch, in Kent. Mary, the heiress of the Harlackendens, conveyed it, by marriage, to Daniel Androwes, Esq. in 1672; since which, it has passed, by marriage also, through two or three other families. The Earls of Oxford had an ancient mansion near the Church, called Hall Place, but this was demolished before Leland's time.

Aubrey de Vere, who accompanied the Conqueror to England, founded a Benedictine PRIORY here, previous to the year 1100, in honor of St. Mary, and St. John the Evangelist. Having richly endowed it, he made it subordinate to the famous Abbey founded by Cissa, at Abingdon, in Berkshire; and afterwards became a monk on his own establishment. Here also he was buried, together with Beatrice, his wife: the epitaph, as given by Weever, from the book of Colne Priory, was as follows:

Here lyeth AULBERY DE VEER, the first Erle of GUISNES, the sonne of ALPHONSUS DE VEER, the whiche AULBERY was the Founder of this place; and BETTRYS, his Wyf, Sister of Kyng WYLLIAM, the CONQUEROUR.

Besides this nobleman, many others of the same illustrious family were interred in the Priory Church: among them are thirteen Earls of Oxford, and several of their wives and children. To the memory of the former, various costly monuments were erected, which, after the Dissolution, were removed into the Parish Church, but are greatly defaced, and otherwise damaged. Three of these have effigies lying on them, carved in wood: two other effigies, one of them supposed to represent Aubrey de Vere, the second Earl, are of alabaster. The arms and quarterings of the family, which were carved and emblazoned on the tombs, are mostly obliterated. The revenues of this Priory were, on the Suppression, estimated at the annual value of 175l. 14s. 8½d. according to Speed. The Priory Church was a stately fabric, but has long been entirely demolished: the monastic buildings were of timber, and have been partly pulled down, and partly converted into a dwelling house; but scarcely any idea can be formed of their original appearance, as the remains have been cased with brick, and otherwise altered: they stand near the Colne river, and were formerly included within a wall, inclosing about twelve acres.

The *Church* at Earls-Colne is dedicated to St. Andrew, and consists only of a body, south aisle, and chancel; with a tower at the west end: the latter was built about the year 1532. On the east and west sides are carvings of the arms of John de Vere, the sixteenth Earl; and at the east corner, near the top, are mullets cut in free-stone. Besides the monuments of the De Veres, already mentioned, several others, for persons of inferior note, are erected in this building. In the village is an ancient *Free-School*, endowed by the Earls of Oxford, but at what period is unknown. The inhabitants of this parish, as enumerated under the late act, were 972; the number of houses, 201.

THOMAS AUDLEY, Lord Chancellor of England in the reign of Henry the Eighth, was born at Earls-Colne in the year 1488. He was bred to the law; and his abilities very early introduced him to the notice of Charles Brandon, Duke of Suffolk, who recommended him to the King, by whose authority he was appointed
Speaker

Speaker in the famous Parliament which met in November 1529. In this assembly he acquitted himself so much to the satisfaction of the stern Harry, that he was appointed to several offices; and in 1532, knighted, and made Lord Keeper. The following year he was promoted to the Chancellorship, which he retained twelve years; and had the Priory of Christ Church, near Aldgate, given him by the King for a town residence. In 1538 he was created Baron Audley of Walden, in this county, and installed Knight of the Garter. He died in April, 1544, and was buried in Walden Church.

Beyond Earls-Colne, to the east, are the parishes of White-Colne, and Colne-Wakes. In the latter is CREPING HALL, an ancient building, standing on an eminence, and moated round. All the places in this neighbourhood distinguished by the name of *Colne*, appear to have that appellation from the Colne river, near which they are respectively situated.

At BURES, called also MOUNT-BURES, to distinguish it from Bures St. Mary, on the opposite side of the river Stour, in Suffolk, where Edmund, King of the East Angles, was crowned, is an artificial mount of earth, about eighty feet in perpendicular height. This was formerly much higher, and covers about an acre and an half of ground, surrounded by a dry moat: no tradition exists as to the time when it was raised.

The contiguous parishes of GREAT and LITTLE MAPLE-STEAD, obtained their names from the maple trees that abounded here in the Saxon times. Great Maplestead is mentioned in the Domesday Book, as being held of Robert Gernon, Lord of Stanstead, afterwards called Stanstead-Montfichet, to which Barony, or Honour, the demesne lands are yet annexed. The Church is a small ancient building, chiefly remarkable as being circular at the east end. On the south side is a Chapel appertaining to DYNES HALL, a manor in this parish, formerly possessed by the *Deanes*, but now belonging to H. Sperling, Esq. Within this are two costly monuments to the memory of SIR JOHN DEANE, KNT. High Sheriff of this county in 1610; and his Lady, Anne, daughter of Sir Drue Drury. On the first, beneath

an arch supported by pillars of black marble, is the effigies of the Knight in armour, in a recumbent posture: above, are the figures of his eight children, in devotional attitudes; and behind, are the family arms. On the other monument is the effigies of **LADY DEANE**, curiously executed, and the figure of her eldest son, in armour, at her feet: various carvings, and other decorations, ornament this tomb.

Little Maplestead was, in the reign of the usurper Stephen, vested in Robert Doisel, whose daughter, Juliana, married William Fitz-Audelin, Steward to Henry the Second, and, with her husband's permission, gave the whole parish, and its appurtenances, to the Knights Hospitalers. This donation was confirmed by King John; and the value of the gift was increased by Henry the Third, who granted the brethren liberty of free-warren. Here a Preceptory* was established under the appellation of *Le Hospital*, which became extremely flourishing from the gifts of numerous benefactors. On the Dissolution, its possessions, with Temple Sutton and Chawreth, were granted, by Henry the Eighth, to George Harper, Esq. who alienated Little Maplestead to John Wiseman, Esq. an Auditor of the King's revenues. Edmund, grandson of this gentleman, was a follower of Robert Devereux, Earl of Essex, whose unfortunate destiny was partly occasioned by the former's negligence in the delivery of a letter entrusted to him by the Earl for the Queen. The subsequent fate of his master so affected him, that he vowed never more to rest on a bed: and Morant observes, "he was as good as his word; for he caused a large tree to be cut out something in the shape of a bed and bolster, on which he lay." In 1682, Sir William Wiseman sold this estate, for 4000l. to Sir Mark Guyon, Knt. from whom it has passed into other families.

The *Church* is a small low edifice, celebrated from its general form resembling the Church of the Holy Sepulchre at Jerusalem,
and

* Morant calls it a Preceptory of the *Knights Templars*, having confused this order with the Knights Hospitalers, who alone appear to have possessed this manor. Had it belonged to the former, it would undoubtedly have been suppressed in 1312, when the order of Knights Templars was finally dissolved.

and the Temple Church at London. The principal entrance is at the west end, by a porch, with three doors: this leads into the circular part, which is just thirty feet in diameter, and has a peristyle, consisting of six clustered columns, supporting pointed arches: the roof is of wood. The whole length of the Church is seventy feet; the east end is semicircular. This structure is dedicated to St. John, of Jerusalem; and is traditionally said to have had the privilege of sanctuary.

The manor of HAWKWOOD, in the parish of Sible-Hedingham, was held of the Earls of Oxford, about the reign of Edward the First, by Stephen Hawkwood, an ancestor of the famous SIR JOHN HAWKWOOD, whose extraordinary exploits have procured him an immortal, yet not very honorable, renown. He was born in this village, in the reign of Edward the Second. His father, Gilbert Hawkwood, was, by occupation, a tanner; and apprenticed his son, at an early age, to a taylor in London. The youth, most probably disliking his profession, entered, as a common soldier, in the army which Edward the Third was then raising for the French wars. In this service he behaved so gallantly, that he was advanced to the rank of Captain, and knighted by the King. He afterwards gave eminent proofs of his valor and conduct at the Battle of Poitiers, and was held in much esteem by Edward the Black Prince. On the termination of the war, he became an adventurer, and having joined the bands called the *late Comers*, committed great depredations in the eastern parts of France: these associates were so successful, that they spread terror even to the gates of Avignon, at that period the residence of the Pope and Cardinals; and their prowess was so much dreaded, that the Pope, to prevent their expected visit, was content to pardon their past offences, and, what they probably considered as of greater moment, to give them also a large sum of money. The Companions separating their forces, our Knight assumed the command of a select troop, called the White Band, consisting of about 5000 horse, and 1500 foot, mostly of his own countrymen. With these he assisted John, Marquis of Mons-serrat, against the Duke of Milan; yet, on the marriage of Lionel, Duke of Clarence,

third

third son of Edward the Third, with the Duke Gallaccio's daughter, he changed sides, and obtained so much renown by his success, that Barnabas, the Duke's brother, gave him his natural daughter, the Lady Domitia, in marriage, with a revenue of 10,000 florins annually. Notwithstanding this alliance, he again became the enemy of the Duke of Milan; according to some authors, in revenge for the death of Lionel, who died within five months of his wedding, and whom he suspected to have been poisoned. Others attribute the change to a design of increasing his fortune, by entering into the service of other Princes. He now plundered many towns in Lombardy, and sold one to the Marquis of Este, for 20,000 crowns. Shortly afterwards he recovered the towns which had revolted from Pope Gregory the Twelfth, in Provence, and was rewarded with dominion over five of them. His fame was at this period so great, that his assistance was courted by several states of Italy, and particularly by the rival commonwealths of Florence and Pisa, which were then contending for Sovereignty. The Florentines offering the most advantageous terms, he fought for a while in their interest; but deserting them, went over to their enemies, on which occasion the celebrated distich of Lucan's was applied to him.

Nulla fides pietasque viris qui castra sequuntur,
Venalesq; manus, ibi fas ubi maxima merces.

Again becoming a partizan of Florence, he rendered its republic such effectual aid, that on his death, in 1394, the senate, from gratitude for his services, decreed that his "body should be deposited in the Cathedral of Sancta Maria Florida, under a sumptuous monument; over which there is his picture on horseback, armed at all points, with hawks flying through a wood on his shield, being the rebus of his name."* John, his son by the Lady Domitia, was born in Italy, but naturalized in England, and knighted in the eighth of Henry the Fourth. Most of his wealth

was

* Morant, Vol. II. p. 288. Mr. Gough observes, that "it seems most probable the monument at Sible-Hedingham containeth his body." Additions to the Britannia, Vol. II. p. 58.

was brought to his native country; and a cenotaph was erected to his honor in Sible-Hedingham Church. Many historians are eloquent in his praise; for dwelling only on his military character, they lose the remembrance of his faults, in the contemplation of his bravery and martial talents.

The parishes of SIBLE-HEDINGHAM, and Castle-Hedingham, appear to have been connected till after the Conquest, as they do not occur as distinct parishes till about the commencement of the reign of Henry the Third. Their situation is very pleasant, the lands being varied with gentle eminences, and watered by rills, and small streams. At the time of the general survey, Sible-Hedingham was held by Roger Bigot, by the marriage of whose second daughter it was conveyed to the De Veres, Earls of Oxford, from whom it descended in the same manner as Hedingham Castle. The *Church* is a neat and tolerably spacious building, supposed, from its ornaments of hawks carved in stone, to have been erected by some of the Hawkwood family, about the reign of Edward the Third. The seal to two of Sir John Hawkwood's letters in the British Museum is a hawk percht; and those on the tower of this structure are similar. A chantry was founded here by his executors; the house appointed for the residence of the Priest stands at some distance from the Church, and still bears the name of the *Hostage*, it having been originally built for the reception and entertainment of devout pilgrims. The cenotaph to the memory of Sir John Hawkwood has long been demolished: it stood under an arch in the south aisle. The population of this parish, as enumerated in 1802, was 1866; the number of houses 364.

HEDINGHAM, or CASTLE-HEDINGHAM, as it has long been called, from the Castle erected here in the Norman times, was the head of the extensive barony belonging to the Veres, Earls of Oxford, to whose ancestor, Aubrey de Vere, it was given, with many other lordships, by William the Conqueror, after the defeat of Harold, at the Battle of Hastings. It continued in this family, with but little interruption, till the year 1625; being held immediately of the Crown, and exclusive of all other lordships.

ships. Henry the Second created it an *Honour*; and it had then twenty-eight dependant Knights'-fees.

Aubrey, or Alberic, first Earl of Oxford, and his wife Lucia, who became the first Prioress, founded a Benedictine NUNNERY here before the year 1190. This was dedicated to St. Mary, St. James, and the Holy Cross, and very amply endowed; though at the Dissolution, its annual revenues were valued at only 29l. 12s. 10d. Henry the Eighth granted its possessions to John, sixteenth Earl of Oxford, who was then patron. The Nunnery, and part of the Chapel belonging to it, is yet standing; the former has long been converted into a farm-house. An *Hospital*, sometimes called the New Abbey, was also founded here about the year 1250, by Hugh, fourth Earl of Oxford, and endowed for two or three Chaplains, a Clerk, Servant, and some poor and decrepit people. This building stood on the south-east side of the Castle, but has been destroyed many years.

The *Church*, dedicated to St. Nicholas, is an ancient stone fabric, with battlements of brick, supposed, from the ornaments, and the carvings of the boar and mullet on different parts of the structure, to have been erected by the De Veres; and probably by Alberic, the second Earl, who appears to have endowed it in the reign of King John.* The present tower, which stands towards the south-west, was built about the year 1616. The timber-work of the roof is variously ornamented; and supported on circular and octagonal pillars. In the midst of the chancel is a superb, but somewhat mutilated monument, covering the remains of JOHN DE VERE, sixteenth Earl of Oxford, who died on the nineteenth of March, 1539. This nobleman was Great Chamberlain of England, Chancellor of State to Henry the Eighth, and Knight of the Garter. On the tomb are incumbent figures of the Earl and his wife, the Lady Elizabeth; together with the arms and quarterings of the family, encircled by the garter. On the south and north sides, are effigies of their children, four sons, and four daughters, who are represented kneeling, with a book open before each.

* Mon. Ang. Vol. I. p. 1021.

each. An inscription, engraven on brass, that went round the tomb, was torn off in the time of the Civil Wars. Various banners, gauntlets, and other warlike remains, belonging to the De Veres, are displayed in different parts of the chancel. Here are also some monuments of the *Ashhursts*, who possessed this estate in the last century, and several of whom are interred in the vault beneath. The number of inhabitants in this parish, as returned under the late act, was 1065; of houses, 243.

HEDINGHAM CASTLE stands near the village, on an eminence, which, from its regular form in that part occupied by the fortress, appears to have been heightened and improved by art. In its original state it covered a much larger area than at present; but the keep, from the great strength and solidity of its walls, has alone resisted the ravages of time and of man. Its architecture is of the pure Anglo-Norman style; and though the exact period of its erection is uncertain, its general resemblance to the Castles known to have been constructed soon after the Conquest, and its particular similarity to Rochester Castle, built by Gundulphus, Bishop of that See, between the years 1088 and 1107, scarcely leave a doubt of its having been raised about the same era. The walls are from eleven feet six inches to twelve feet six inches thick, at the bottom; and from nine feet six inches to ten feet thick, at the top. The eastern wall is at least one foot thicker than the others; a circumstance that seems to have been purposely contrived to oppose a greater resistance to the weather, as the most stormy winds in this country arise from that quarter. Its shape is nearly square; the east and west sides measuring about fifty-five feet; the north and south, about sixty-two: its height is rather more than 100 feet. At each angle, on the top, was formerly a turret, which, with the platform, or upper story, were embattled: two of these turrets are destroyed, together with the battlements and parapet wall. The materials of which it is composed, are irregular flints, and stones, embedded in grout, or fluid mortar: the whole outside is cased with squared stone, laid with great neatness and regularity. This stone appears to have been brought
from

from the quarries at Barnack, in Northamptonshire: it is calcareous, and seems to be a congeries of minute shells and earth.

The original entrance is on the west side, by a flight of stairs reaching to the principal door in the first story, the grooves for the portcullis on each side of which may yet be seen. About six feet within the entrance, on the north, is a circular stair-case, descending to the ground floor, and ascending to the upper stories. The ground floor may now, however, be entered from without, by two openings, made with great labor in the eastern wall, about the year 1720, by the then proprietor, for the purpose of converting this floor into an out-house. The interior consists of five stories; and was constructed with every attention to security from the attacks of external enemies. "At the bottom, where the danger was most apparent, the walls are thickest; and the aperture is a mere loop-hole, simple in its form, sufficient only to admit a scanty light, and to allow the discharge of offensive weapons from within: above, the windows increase in size, and are somewhat ornamented; above these, the apertures are still larger, with similar embellishments: in the next story, the windows are double, admitting more air and light; and in the upper or attic story, they are richly ornamented with the usual zigzag of that age: thus, in proportion as the distance from danger was increased, the architect seems to have introduced into his structure, air, light, and ornament."*

The ground floor had originally no light but from the loop-holes; and in its construction displays only massive strength, without ornament. The entrance story is more lofty; the arches are somewhat more embellished, and the architecture is altogether of a lighter kind. The story next in succession is the Armory, or Hall of Audience and Ceremony; this is a noble apartment, thirty-eight feet by thirty-one, exclusive of the space occupied by a gallery which surrounds it, and is carried through the very centre of the walls. Its height, from the floor to the centre of a
great

* Letter of Lewis Majendie, Esq. published in the third volume of the *Vestusta Munimenta*. From this gentleman's account of Hedingham Castle, most of the above particulars are derived.

great arch, which extends completely across, and supports the upper part, is twenty-one feet, and to the ceiling twenty-eight feet. Here the style of building is still more embellished; the bases and capitals of the pillars, the mouldings, &c. displaying more elaborate ornaments. In this chamber, the ancient Barons received the homage of their feudal tenants, and entertained their visitors in all the ostentatious hospitality of the times. Above is the attic, or uppermost floor; and over it the platform, which commands a view of the surrounding country to a considerable extent. Near the loop-holes and windows, on most of the floors, are a variety of recesses running into the heart of the wall; these were probably intended as sleeping places for the soldiers. It is observable, that the ornaments of the imposts and bases of the same arch, mostly differ throughout the whole building; a circumstance that seems, from its frequent occurrence in structures of the same age, to become a distinguishing characteristic of the Anglo-Norman style.

The *Ballium*, or Inner Court, in which the Castle stands, contains nearly three acres. Within this were several towers, and other buildings, that appear to have been built by John de Vere, the thirteenth Earl, soon after the battle at Bosworth Field, and were mostly destroyed about the year 1592, by warrant from Edward, the seventeenth Earl. Some other buildings stood in the outer court, on the sites now occupied by a handsome mansion-house and its offices; these were built by Robert Ashhurst, Esq. about the year 1719.

Though the exact time when this Castle was erected cannot be ascertained, there is full reason to believe that it was built by the De Veres, who, as already stated, possessed the lordship from the Conquest till 1625: and that it was raised before the year 1152, is certain, as various authors have recorded the death of Maud, wife to King Stephen, as happening "at Hanningham Castle,* belonging to Alberic de Vere, Earl of Oxford." It is probable, therefore,

* See Dr. Ducaral's *Anglo-Norman Antiquities*, p. 97. Henry's *History of England*, 8vo. Vol. VI. p. 192. Grose's *Antiquities*, &c.

therefore, that it owes its origin to the general permission to erect castles granted by Stephen, and that it was built either by the first Aubrey, Earl of Oxford, or by his successor: the former of whom was slain by the rabble at London in 1140; the latter died in 1214.

During the contest between the Barons and King John, it was taken by the latter from Robert, the third Earl, in 1216. The following year, after the accession of Henry the Third, it again became an object of contention, and was surrendered to Prince Lewis, the Dauphin of France; who, however, was soon afterwards dispossessed by the joint moderation and firmness of the Earl of Pembroke, governor to the young King. Robert de Vere, who had taken such an active part in favor of the Barons, that he was by name excommunicated by Innocent the Third, was also pardoned, and restored to his inheritance. From this period, nothing particular occurs relating to the Castle, till the time of John, the twelfth Earl, to whom it passed in almost uninterrupted succession. This nobleman espoused the cause of the Lancastrians, and continued so firm in his allegiance to Henry the Sixth, that Edward the Fourth, at a Parliament held on November the fourth, in the first year of his reign, caused him, though then nearly sixty years of age, to be attainted, with Aubrey, his eldest son, and afterwards, with several others, to be beheaded on Tower Hill. John, his second son, immediately took the title of Earl of Oxford; and seems, during the first part of Edward's reign, to have been actually employed in the restoration of his deposed Sovereign; in which object, he, with his friends, succeeded for a short time, and was re-instated in his estates and honors. The superior fortune of Edward having once more regained the ascendancy, the Earl, after the decisive battle of Barnet, fled into France, whence returning in a short time with a small force, he surprised St. Michael's Mount, in Cornwall, but was soon obliged to yield himself a prisoner, and was sent by the King to the Castle of Hammes, in Picardy, where he was closely confined for about twelve years; but at length escaped, according to some accounts, through an intimacy with the wife of his keeper. In the mean time, his
ample

ample estates were confiscated; and, in the first year of Richard the Third, this Castle, lordship, and manor, were granted for life to Sir Thomas Montgomery; who, however, did not enjoy it any considerable time, as, on the accession of Henry the Seventh, after the victory at Bosworth, the act of attainder was repealed, and all the Earl's estates and honors restored to him. No one, indeed, contributed more to raise the Earl of Richmond to the throne of England than this nobleman: for, on his escape from the Castle of Hammes, he joined the Earl's adherents, accompanied him to England, and commanded the vanguard of his army with the greatest zeal and effect.

" This John de Vere, thirteenth Earl of Oxford, when unengaged in the affairs of his Sovereign, (for he was his principal servant both for war and peace,*) seems to have passed much of his time at this Castle. He appears to have been a wise, magnificent, learned, and religious man;† and to have lived in great splendor, and much hospitality. These qualities seem to have drawn the jealousy and resentment of his master upon this old and faithful servant, and that at a moment more proper to extinguish, than to actuate the sordid passions; at the close of a sumptuous and expensive entertainment given by the Earl to Henry the Seventh at this Castle. The story is authenticated by our best historians,‡ and is thus related by Lord Verulam.

" At the King's going away, the Earl's servants stood in their livery coats and cognizances, ranged on both sides, and made a lane. The King called the Earl, and said unto him, ' My Lord, I have heard much of your hospitality, but I see it is greater than the speech: these handsome gentlemen and yeomen, which I see on both sides of me, are sure your menial servants.' The Earl smiled, and answered, ' It may please your Grace, that were not for mine ease: they are most of them my retainers, that are come

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to

* Sir Francis Bacon's Hist. of Henry the Seventh, p. 221.

† Collins's Noble Families, p. 252.

‡ Letter of Louis Majendie, Esq. *Vetusta Munimenta*.

to do me service at such a time as this, and chiefly to see your Grace.' The King startled a little, and said, 'By my faith, my Lord, I thank you for your good cheer; but I may not have my laws broken in my sight. My attorney must speak with you:' and it is reported that the Earl compounded for no less than 15,000 marks for this offence against the Statute of Retainers."

This Earl survived his ungenerous Sovereign about four years. On his death, his body was conveyed from the Castle to the parish church, where it lay in state previous to its interment at Colne Priory. The great and expensive parade attending the funerals of noblemen in that age, may be estimated from a document preserved in the British Museum,* and which contains these words; "there were given of black gounes the number of nine hundred and more; and so was my Lord brought to the parish church, and laid in the quire."

Edward, the seventeenth Earl, was noted for his unbounded profusion, which occasioned him to alienate many of the family estates. His first wife was Ann, eldest daughter of the Lord Chancellor Burleigh, by whom he had three daughters; his second, Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Trentham, Gent. of Roucester, in Staffordshire, and Maid of Honor to Queen Elizabeth: by this lady he had one son, named Henry, who succeeded to the earldom. Among the other estates which the extravagance of Earl Edward obliged him to part with, was the Honour and Castle of Hedingham, which was secured by Lord Burleigh, most probably with a view of providing for his three grand-daughters. Previous to this, however, the Castle was dilapidated, and most of the buildings razed to the ground, under the Earl's warrant. The Parks, which were three in number, and contained several hundred acres, were parted, and let to several tenants in allotments.

Henry, the eighteenth Earl, was, by the prudence of his mother, and the assistance of her opulent relations, restored to this estate by agreement with his three half-sisters, and their husbands.

On

* Harl. MSS. p. 295. f. 155.

On his death, without issue, in 1625, it was held in jointure by his Countess Diana, second daughter of William, second Earl of Exeter, after whose decease, in 1655, it passed into his mother's family, who retained it till the year 1713, when it was purchased by Robert Ashhurst, Esq. second son of Sir William Ashhurst, Knt. Lord Mayor of London in 1693. The Ashhursts were succeeded by Sir Henry Houghton, of Houghton Tower, in Lancashire; but the present possessor is Lewis Majendie, Esq. who inhabits the mansion erected in the beginning of the last century.

TWINSTEAD HALL, late the seat of the learned James Marriot, LL. D. stands on a commanding eminence near the village Church. It is a spacious and handsome building, encircled by pleasant gardens, inclosed by a deep moat, over which is a light bridge, leading into the adjoining meadows.

In the chancel of the small and ancient Church at MIDDLETON, on a black marble slab, is a male figure, the body and other parts sculptured on the slab; but the head inlaid, and of white marble. Around it are various ornaments; and on the verge of the stone the remains of the following inscription:

Hic jacet Dominus JACOBUS SAMPSON; quondam
Rector Ecclesie hujus Middleton, qui obiit Anno Domini
MCCCCLX.

BELCHAMP HALL, situated in the parish of Belchamp-Walter, is the seat and property of the Rev. Samuel Raymond, one of whose ancestors came into England with William the Conqueror, and whose family have resided in this neighbourhood for the last 200 years. The present mansion is a substantial and commodious building, having its principal, or south-eastern front, composed mostly of foreign bricks. It stands in a pleasant lawn, sloping gently to a small river, that flows within about 200 yards of the front. To the south is an extensive and spacious terrace, skirted with lofty trees, and terminated at one end by an ancient building, ornamented with some painted glass. At the other end is a lofty mount, having another ornamental building on its sum-

mit. This mansion contains a collection of pictures by some of the most esteemed masters; among them are the following.

A large picture, containing three subjects, by old Teniers. Christ appearing to the Virgin Mary, in the character of a Gardener; Rubens. A Landscape, with an approaching Storm; Jacob Ruysdael. Two pictures, representing Architectural Ruins; Viviani. Christ in the Garden; Ben. Luti; a very fine specimen of this artist's talents. A Landscape; Both. Another, finely painted; by Wynants; and a third, by Waterloo, an artist famous for his etchings of trees, &c. The Wise Men's Offering, an altarpiece; Albert Durer. This picture, with a large gun, some pistols, and powder-flasks, inlaid with gold and ivory, were presented to the Raymonds, by Sir William Harris, a sea-officer, who took them, with other property, on the defeat of the Spanish Armada, in 1588. A three-quarter portrait of SIR HUGH MIDDLETON, Bart. in whose public spirit the New River originated, and was brought to London; another of his Wife; both by Cornelius Jansen. Sir Hugh resided at Goldingham Hall, in the parish of Bulmer, adjoining Belchamp.

The *Church* of Belchamp-Walter, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, is lofty, and neat; and contains an orchestra, with a fine toned organ. Here is a large vault belonging to the Raymond family, to whom there is a fine marble monument in the chancel. A Sunday School, for fifty poor children, has been established in this village by Mrs. Raymond.

In BORLEY *Church* is a splendid monument to the memory of several individuals of the Waldegrave family, who have held the manor from the time of Henry the Eighth. This monument is fourteen feet in height, nine in length, and five broad. Under a rich cornice, supported by pillars of the Corinthian Order, are incumbent figures of SIR EDWARD WALDEGRAVE, and his LADY FRANCES; the former of whom died in 1561; the latter in 1599. Near them are the effigies of their five children, two sons and three daughters; at the top of the canopy are the family arms; and round the edge a Latin inscription. The whole is gilt and painted, and inclosed by iron palisadoes.

LISTON HALL, the seat of ——— Campbell, Esq. is a handsome modern building, with wings connected by piazzas. It is very pleasantly situated on the borders of the county near the river Stour, and encompassed by a small park and gardens. This manor was given by William the Conqueror to Hugh de Gurnai, one of his officers, who afterwards became a monk in the Abbey of Bec, in Normandy. From this family it passed to the *De Listons*, who settled here either in the reign of Henry the Second, or King John; and held the lands here by the sergeantry of “making and placing five *uafers* before the King, as he sits at dinner on the day of his Coronation.”* By the same tenure, with but little variation, the manor of Liston was held for nearly five centuries; though during that period it passed through various families.

GREAT YELDHAM is an extensive parish, but thinly inhabited: the lands are well cultivated, and divided into arable, pasture, and meadow, interspersed with flourishing plantations of hops. Here is also some fine timber; and a remarkable ancient oak, which stands near the Church, the trunk of which is upwards of nine yards in circumference. The *Church* is a strong stone building, supposed to have been erected by subscription of the neighbouring gentry, about the time of Edward the Third: it is pleasantly situated on a hill, and is ornamented with a neat altar-piece, and some painted glass, put up about fifty years ago. Here is a handsome monument to the memory of the Dowager Lady Viscountess BATEMAN, daughter to Charles, Earl of Sunderland, who died in February, 1769. Within a little distance of the Church is a house, anciently used for dressing a dinner when any of the poor inhabitants were married; but now converted into a *School*.

In the year 1800, a skeleton, and various Roman antiquities, were discovered by a laborer in a field belonging to Bradfield Farm, in the parish of TOPPESFIELD, adjoining Great Yeldham on the north. Among them was a metal vase, or *Præfericulum*, with a handle; a metal *Patera*, bossed in the centre; three

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elegant

* Morant's Essex, Vol. II. p. 320.

elegant little cups, of red Samian ware; a Roman coin, much defaced; and a sword-blade, greatly corroded, and found lying across the breast of the skeleton.*

Northward from Toppesfield, are the contiguous parishes of RIDGWELL, BIRDBROOK, and STURMERE, through which a *Roman military Way* is mentioned, by Dr. Salmon, to have passed from Colchester towards *Camboricum*. An account of this road, and the antiquities discovered on either side, was communicated to the Society of Antiquaries, in February, 1801, by Thomas Walford, Esq. of Whitley; from whose letter the following particulars are derived.

Ridgwell appears to have obtained its name from the Roman ridgeway, a road, which passes near it, on the south-west; and which, in the year 1790, was very visible; but can now hardly be traced, from the effects of cultivation. Nearly midway, between the road and the village, in a field, called Great Ashley, many Roman antiquities, as coins, tiles, and tesserae, were found previous to the year 1794; when it was first discovered to have been the site of a ROMAN VILLA; and a very accurate plan of that part which had not been previously disturbed, was taken by Mr. Walford.†

“The entrance of this villa was on the south south-west front, into a narrow *porticus*, between sixty and seventy feet long, and only nine wide, with a tessellated pavement, nearly entire; the tesserae one inch long, three quarters of an inch wide, and half an inch thick, all entire: in the centre were six squares of large brick, of which five only were perfect; part of the sixth having been disturbed by the plough. These squares, which were exactly three feet every way, and seven distant from each other, were probably the foundations of pillars, which formed a colonnade to support the roof of the porticus. The tiles, or bricks, in these squares, were sixteen inches long, twelve inches wide at one end, thirteen at the other, and three quarters of an inch thick; the edges, which were turned up an inch and a quarter high, were thicker than the other part of the tile. These were placed

* *Archæologia*, Vol. XIV.

† *Ibid*, Vol XIV.

placed with their edges downward, upon a thick bed of sand; and upon them was laid a considerable coat of mortar, made with pounded bricks and lime, to cement the bricks which lay above, and which were fifteen inches and a half long, eleven inches wide, and about one inch and a half thick: six of these, with a small piece or two to fill up the centre, formed the square of three feet, as above-mentioned.

“ From the porticus, an ascent of one step led into the *Crypto-porticus*,* which was paved with red tesserae, in strait lines, but larger than the former. This appears to have led to the principal room, as a great number of very small tesserae, of various colors, were found, and some pieces with eight or ten, that had not been separated, that had certainly formed part of a beautiful pavement, formerly broken up by the plough. The pavement which remained of the crypto-porticus, was but four inches below the furrow; therefore, supposing a step out of this into the principal room, the floor would have been even with the present surface; and, consequently, must long ago have been disturbed. That there were rooms beyond this, is ascertained by the remains of a wall, extending ten feet further than any other part; and further proved by numerous pieces of wall, painted in stripes of yellow, blue, purple, brown, crimson, and green; which had evidently fallen from the sides of the rooms where they were found.”

One of the rooms appears to have communicated with an *Hypocaust*, recorded to have been met with here about fifty years ago; and most probably was heated by it, as a very perfect flue was remaining, which extended sixteen feet eight inches under the floor; the arch was turned with large bricks, abutting upon rubble stone; the sides and bottom were of the same; its width was twenty-one inches, and its height thirty-three inches clear: the mouth of the flue was covered with a large stone; and near it were found a considerable quantity of wood, coals, part of

A a 4

a hand-mill,

* The *Crypto-porticus* was an inclosed or private porticus, so called to distinguish it from the porticus whose roof was supported by pillars. *Castel's Villas*, p. 4. *Note*.

a hand-mill, two pieces of stag's horn, two brass fibulæ, and several copper coins.

Among the other remains found in different parts of the ruins, were many fragments of *Puterae*, and pots of various kinds of Roman earthen-ware; many fragments of glass, two-eighths of an inch thick, "which had evidently been used in the windows; one piece perfectly flat, with a round edge, formed to fit a groove;" a great number of ornamented tiles; and the fragment of another tile, with the figures $\frac{VI}{I}$ twice repeated; two ivory styles; an oblong brass fibulæ; a fibulæ, nearly circular, with ornamented ends; a silver coin of Domitian, in fine preservation; another of Otacilia Severa, very perfect; copper coins of Nero, Vespasian, Domitian, Trajan, Carausius, Constantine the Great, Constantine, Jun. Theodosius, and Arcadius; and a "small British coin of gold, similar to figure 55 in Camden's *Britannia*, page 65."

In Birdbrook Parish, on different sides of the turnpike-road, which appears to have been formed for a considerable space on the Roman Military Way, various *skeletons* have been found. With some of them urns were discovered; but the greater number had neither urns, nor any other antiquity. The ground where they lay, is quite level, having no traces whatever of tumuli; thus verifying the observation of Strutt, "that not many Roman antiquities have been found in barrows, but large quantities in the more common burying-grounds, near their stations; and without their cities, or on *the sides of their great roads*; and these are most frequently discovered without the least vestige, or mark, of any kind of funeral monuments."* Two skeletons, found with two urns, in Oxley Field, belonging to Chadwell Farm, lay in a very singular manner; being "arm in arm, each clasping the same urn; and the right leg of one laid across the left leg of the other, the lower urn being placed between their hips." In the year 1792, at a little distance from the turnpike-road, a single skeleton was found, with two urns; the one placed lengthways between the feet; the other clasped by the left arm, with the mouth

* *Antiquities*, Vol. I. p. 58.

mouth downwards: one of the urns was broken with the pick-axe; the other was preserved by Mr. Walford: it is about seven inches high, and three wide at the top, with the sides indented. A small quantity of red earth was inclosed within these, similar to the soil in which they were deposited.

A little to the north-west of Watsoe Bridge, which divides the parishes of Birdbrook and Steeple-Bumstead, and immediately above the river Stour, is the site of a *Roman Camp*, or station; part of the west vallum is still remaining; the north-west end was destroyed so lately as the year 1793. Many stone foundations of buildings have been dug up here; and several skeletons, with urns and coins, discovered in a neighbouring field: in a field also, on the opposite side of the Stour, many Roman coins have been found.

In Ford Meadow, about a furlong from the camp, a workman, stubbing gravel in February, 1793, discovered a small urn, covered with part of a Roman brick, containing one gold, and twenty-nine silver *coins*, of the Lower Empire, in very fine preservation. The gold coin was of the Emperor Honorius: the others were of Honorius, Arcadius, Magnus Maximus, Gratian, Valentinian the Elder, and Julian. The urn was of light brown earth, slightly baked. About one mile and a half westward from Ford Meadow is a large tumulus.*

WHITLEY, in the parish of Birdbrook, and nearly centrally situated between Birdbrook, Bathorne End, and Ridgwell, is the property and residence of Thomas Walford, Esq. who has greatly embellished and improved the estate by various plantations, and laying out the grounds in an ornamental style. A screen of firs and forest trees, combined with sycamores, chesnuts, larches, &c. extends from the house to a small hill, planted with cedars, cypresses,

* Some other antiquities, and, in particular, a number of British coins, are mentioned by Mr. Walford, to have been found to the right of the Military Way, beyond Haverhill, in Suffolk; these will be mentioned in our description of that county. In addition to the particulars communicated to the Society of Antiquaries by Mr. W. that gentleman is now preparing for publication, a History and Description, with Plates, of the Roman Antiquities found in the Parish and Vicinity of Birdbrook.

presses, and laurels. The prospect hence, commanding some fine scenery, is enlivened by the grand embattled Castle of Hedingham, and the Churches of Toppesfield, Ridgwell, and Birdbrook. At a short distance is a wood of about seven acres, laid out in pleasant walks, and ornamented with various seats and buildings. One of them, called the *Hermitage*, is most agreeably situated among the trees, and consists of three circular apartments. It is built with rag-stone, timber, and bark of trees: the whole covered with thatch, paved with pebbles and tiles, and rusticated with moss, &c. Several other rural and ornamental scenes and objects are contained in these grounds. The flower garden comprises a rich and choice assemblage of exotic shrubs and flowers, besides a collection of rare English plants: this spot is decorated with a building, appropriately named the *Temple of Flora*, and a Summer-house, fancifully ornamented with trellis-work. This estate was purchased, by Thomas Walford, M. D. of Finchinfield, (ancestor to the present proprietor,) in the year 1657.

BIRDBROOK HALL, with other estates in this vicinity, is the property of Sir William Beaumaurice Rush, Knt. of Wimbledon, in Surry; whose family purchased this manor, in the year 1716, of the Honorable Lord George Howard, who possessed it in right of his wife.

The manor of BATHORNE HALL, the property of George Pyke, Esq. was purchased of Charles, Lord Stanhope, by George Pyke, Esq. of Birdbrook, in the year 1648. BATHORNE HOUSE, the present residence of the above gentleman, was erected in 1668; but was modernized, and much improved, in the year 1801. It stands in a large park, partly disposed into pleasure grounds.

HARSTED HALL, a reputed manor in Birdbrook Parish, is distinguished as containing some of the finest oaks in the whole county.

STURMERE derives its name from its vicinity to a Mere formed by the river Stour, and though now only an obscure village, was formerly of great extent and consequence, and is said to have extended into both Suffolk and Cambridgeshire. Even the town of Haverhill, in the former county, was once a hamlet to Sturmere; and the latter is still "rated and assessed to the land-tax

by a warrant directed to two of its inhabitants to assess Sturmere, with its hamlets Haverhill and Ketton.”*

BOWER HALL, in the parish of Bumstead-Steeple, was, in the reign of Edward the Third, the property of Sir John Knivet, Chief Justice of the King's Bench, and Lord Chancellor. It was afterwards alienated; and in the year 1435, came into the possession of the Bendish family, which for a long period held lands in this parish. SIR THOMAS BENDISH, Bart. who was born here, was a distinguished partizan of Charles the First's, in whose cause he was some time imprisoned by the House of Commons; but after his liberation, obtained so much renown for his integrity and talents, that, in 1647, he was sent, by connivance of the Parliament, as Ambassador Extraordinary to the Ottoman Porte. He continued in Turkey fifteen years, transacting the business of his embassy with great address and spirit; and though letters for his recall, were sent to Constantinople by the Protector, Oliver, he refused to obey the mandate, or to resign his commission, without the King's order. On this refusal, he was impeached for high treason; and probably only escaped death, by his determination not to return to England while the enemies of royalty held supreme power. After the Restoration he was recalled by Charles the Second, with many promises of reward for his services; though they do not appear to have been fulfilled. He died here, in his own mansion, in 1674, and was buried in the *Church*, where many others of his family lie intombed; and some of whom are commemorated by elaborate monuments. Since the death of Sir Henry Bendish, Bart. the last male heir, who died in 1717, this estate has become the property of the *Andersons*. The mansion is a handsome and convenient building, pleasantly situated in a small park, with contiguous gardens.

HEMSTED, or HEMPSTEAD, a reputed chapelry to Great Sampford, contains two manors; one of which, called Hemsted Hall, was purchased, in the reign of Charles the First, by the celebrated physician, Dr. William Harvey, or his brother Eliab Harvey,

* Morant's Essex, Vol. II. p. 347.

Harvey, Esq. The burial-place of this family is the vault beneath Hemsted Chapel, where several monuments are erected to their memory. Among them is one for DR. HARVEY, displaying his bust, and inscribed with a Latin epitaph, recording his discovery of the circulation of the blood, and other circumstances connected with his professional knowledge. He died in the year 1657, at the age of eighty.

In the parish of ASSHEDON, separated from Bartlow, in Cambridgeshire, only by a small rivulet, are four large contiguous *Barrows*, called the BARTLOW HILLS, from their situation being not very distant from Bartlow Church. These are vulgarly regarded as the tumuli raised over the slain in the battle fought between Edmund Ironside, and the Danish King, Canute, in the year 1016; but as this tradition is not supported by any historical authority, it cannot be considered as deserving of credit. Indeed, the testimony of ancient authors is decisively against it, as from them it appears that Canute, after plundering Mercia, was retreating "to his ships, when attacked by Edmund, and that the battle was fought at Assandune." It is therefore evident, that the place of action should be sought for rather in the vicinity of the sea, than at the northern extremity of the county. Mr. Gough, from the similarity of the name, and other circumstances, places it at *Assingdon*,* in Rochford hundred, and that with every appearance of probability, as will be seen in our description of that part of the county. Camden, speaking of the Bartlow Hills, says, he was informed, that, "In digging down a fifth and sixth, some time since, they found three stone coffins with broken human bones in them:" and Hollinshed affirms, that two bodies were found in one stone coffin, one lying with the head towards the feet of the other."† On this evidence, Mr. Gough observes, we do not find the use of stone coffins among the northern nations in their Pagan state, and the Danes were not converted till long after the time when the battle was fought. The real occasion of raising these barrows, must, therefore, be regarded as at present unknown.

HADSTOCK,

* *Britannia*, Vol. II. p. 53. Gough's Edit.

† *Ibid.* p. 46.

HADSTOCK, now a small mean village, nearly adjoining Cambridgeshire, had formerly the privilege of a market, which appears to have been procured, in the year 1337, through the interest of the Bishop of Ely, who held the manor of the King, *in capite*, as part of his barony. The *Church* consists of a nave and transepts, with a small tower rising from the intersection in the centre. Dr. Salmon, and others, suppose the *Ikening Way* to have passed near this village from Royston.

GREAT CHESTERFORD is a small but ancient village, situated on the east side of the river Granta, which, in this part of its course, divides Essex from Cambridgeshire, and is by some authors erroneously named the Cam. This was the undoubted site of a Roman station, as is evident from the numerous Roman coins, urns, and other antiquities, that have been dug up here, as well as from the remains of the encampment itself, which, till within these few years, might be completely traced, and is yet visible in several places. Its name, however, like those of all the other stations in this county and neighbourhood, has been much contested. Dr. Stukeley, and Baxter, make it the *Camboricum* of Antoninus; and Horsley calls it *Iciani*; a station which Dr. Salmon, on very insufficient grounds, refers to Colchester, the site of the real Camulodunum, which this author places at Castle Camps, in Cambridgeshire. Mr. Gough appears to incline to the opinions of those who make Chesterford the ancient Camboricum.

Dr. Stukeley, who visited this station in the year 1719, and described it in his *Itinerarium Curiosum*, says, that, “the foundation of the walls was very apparent, quite round, though level with the ground, including a space of about fifty acres. Great part of it serves for a causeway to the public Cambridge road from London; the Crown Inn is built upon it; the rest is made use of by the countrymen for their carriages to and fro in the fields: the earth is still high on both sides of it. In one part, where they have been long digging it up for materials in building, and mending the roads, I measured its breadth twelve feet, and remarked its composition of rag-stone, flints, and Roman bricks, bound together by a strong cement. The bricks are fourteen

inches and a half long, and nine broad. I remarked, that the city was just 1000 Roman feet in breadth, and that the breadth to the length was as three to five, of the same proportion as they make their bricks; it is pointed obliquely to the cardinal points; its length from north-west to south-west, whereby wholesomeness is so well provided for, according to the direction of Vitruvius."

The most numerous of the coins discovered here, are those of Caligula, Trajan, Constantine, and Constantius; though many of the early, as well as the later Emperors, have been also dug up; and a large parcel of very fine ones was found here in a pot in 1769.* A bronze bust, various fibulæ, with brass and gold utensils and instruments, have likewise been met with; as well as many urns and entire skeletons; "and a small urn also of red earth, containing several written scrolls of parchment, but dispersed before any account or explanation could be obtained. A stone trough, the only one of the kind, perhaps, in England, discovered here, and some time used for water at a smith's forge, was in the hands of the late Dr. Gower, of Chelmsford, who supposed it to be a receptacle of ashes, of the kind called, by Montfaucon, and others, *Quietorium*. It is a half octagon, with a flat back, about three feet long, and about a foot or eighteen inches deep: in four compartments are reliefs of human figures down to the waists, in tolerable preservation. That in the middle, which seems older than the others, has nothing in its hands; that to the right, holds a kind of patera with a handle; one to the left, in a *paludamentum*, has a singular weapon, like a trident, with a bar across the top, or perhaps a vexillum; the other, but half a figure, holds a spear. These may represent one person in different characters, or a family."† Besides the station itself, which Dr. Salmon, in his *Antiquities of Essex*, states as being a mile in compass, a smaller camp may be traced near the Church; and several

* Gough's *Additions to the Britannia*, Vol. II. p. 62.

† Gough's *Additions*, &c. Vol. II. p. 62. Mr. Horsley, who discovered this trough in a mill at Chesterford, had it engraved, but very wretchedly, for the *Britannia Romana*.

ral others have been noticed as remaining within the circuit of a few miles.

In the reign of Edward the Confessor, this manor was the property of Earl Edgar; but at the time of the Domesday Survey, it belonged to the King, and had the privileges of a royal demesne. It was afterwards possessed by several noble families; and in 1502, granted, by Maurice, brother to William, Marquis of Berkley, and Isabel, his wife, to the Abbey of St. Peter's, at Westminster; but, on the Dissolution, Henry the Eighth bestowed it on the Lord Chancellor Audley, from whom it has passed to the present Lord Braybrooke.

The *Church*, dedicated to All Saints, is a large building, and had a chantry founded in it by William Holden, Gent. under licence granted by Henry the Eighth: its annual revenues amounted to 9l. 9s. 7d. In the certificate of the chantry lands, Great Chesterford is called "a great towne, and populous, having in yt to the number of 500 houseling people, and more." Morant also affirms, that it had formerly a market. The inhabitants of the parish, as enumerated under the late act, amounted to 600; the houses to 128. "The many Roman roads," observes Mr. Gough, "that still retain their name, or ridge, about this ancient station, deserve to be accurately traced."

WALDEN, OR SAFFRON-WALDEN,

Is a large, straggling town, deriving its name, *Walden*, from the Saxon words *Weald* and *Den*, signifying *Woody Hill*; and the term *Saffron*,* from the great quantities of that plant formerly cultivated in its vicinity; but the cultivation of which round this spot has long been abandoned. Its situation is peculiar; and Dr. Stukeley, who, without sufficient authority, conjectures it to have been the site of a Roman station, calls it "the most beautiful he ever beheld." A narrow tongue of land, he continues, "shoots
itself

* Saffron is said to have been first brought into England, and first grown in Essex and Cambridgeshire, in the reign of Edward the Third.

itself out like a promontory, encompassed with a valley in the form of a horse-shoe, inclosed by distant and most delightful hills. On the bottom of the tongue stand the ruins of a castle; and on the top, or extremity, the Church, round which, on the side of the hill, and in the valley, is the town built; so that the bottom of the Church is as high as the town, and seen above the tops of the houses.”*

At the period of the Domesday Survey, Walden was one of the numerous lordships possessed by Geoffrey de Magnaville, a Norman Chief, who accompanied the Conqueror into England, and whose services were rewarded with 118 lordships, of which forty were in this county. This Nobleman founded a *Castle* here, and, according to the expression of Camden, “first gave life to the place,” which afterwards became the head of the barony and honor of Mandaville. This Castle occupied the highest part of the town, and, from the remaining fragments, appears to have been of great strength; the walls having been composed of small flints, bound together by a very strong cement. Geoffrey, grandson of the above, was a man of great personal bravery; a quality which, in his turbulent age, was of the first necessity. King Stephen made him Keeper of the Tower of London, and created him Earl of Essex; probably with a view of retaining him firmly in his interest; but the more advantageous offers of the Empress Maud allured him to her party. Besides very ample grants of land, she constituted him Hereditary Sheriff of London, and of the shires of Middlesex, Hertford, and Essex: she confirmed to him the possession of all his forts and castles; and gave him liberty to retain and fortify the Tower of London at his pleasure. She also granted him liberty to remove the market from the neighbouring town of *Newport*, to his Castle at *Walden*, there to hold it twice weekly, on Thursday and Sunday; with the right of all tolls, customs, &c. Stephen being privately informed of the defection of the Earl, caused him to be arrested at St. Albans in 1143; and, before he could obtain his liberty, he was obliged to surrender the government

* Letter to Roger Gale, Esq. Gale's Letters, p. 112.

ment of the Tower, together with his own castles of Walden and Plesby, to the King. Inflamed by vengeance for this treatment, with a band of desperate partizans, he ravaged the demesnes of the Sovereign, and his adherents, without mercy; but was at length shot by an arrow (A. D. 1144) while besieging the Castle of Burwell,* in Cambridgeshire, when under sentence of excommunication for having plundered the Abbey of Ramsey, in Huntingdonshire.†

Besides the growing importance obtained by this town through the removal of the market from Newport, its consequence was further advanced by the founding of a *Benedictine Priory* here by the above Earl Geoffrey in the year 1136; and which was converted into an ABBEY in 1190.‡ It stood on the spot now occupied by Audley House; and was supported by considerable endowments, arising from estates and churches in various counties. At the time of the general Suppression, its possessions were, according

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cording

* Beauties, Vol. II. p. 142.

† “ Lying at the point of death, ready to give up his last gasp, there came by certain Knights Templars, who laid upon him the habit of their religious profession, signed with a red cross; and afterwards, when he was full dead, taking him up with them, enclosed him in a leaden coffin, and hung him up on a tree in the orchard in the Old Temple in London; for, in a reverend awe of the Church, they durst not bury him, because he died excommunicated; so fearful in those days was the sentence of excommunication. A violent invader he was of other mens’ lands and possessions, and therefore justly incurred the world’s censure, and this doom of the Church: but I must leave him, where buried, or where not, God knows.” *Register Book of Walden*, quoted by Camden and Weever. The excommunication being afterwards taken off, he was privately buried.

‡ Among the eminent persons buried in the *Abbey Church*, were Geoffrey, son of the founder; Humphrey de Bohun, fifth Earl of Essex; his son Humphrey the sixth Earl’s wife, with three of her sons, and a daughter; the wife of John, seventh Earl; Humphrey, ninth Earl, and his wife; and Humphrey, son of Thomas of Woodstock, Duke of Gloucester, and his wife. In the *Chapter House* were buried the hearts of the founder’s second son, and of William the fourth Earl; together with the body of Beatrix de Say, the founder’s sister. *Gough’s Camden*, Vol. II. p. 62.

cording to Speed, valued at 406l. 15s. 11d. per annum; and were granted, by Henry the Eighth, to the Lord Chancellor Audley, who soon afterwards obtained licence to enlarge his park, by inclosing 200 additional acres. The grant included the manor of Walden, which has passed from the Magnavilles to Geoffrey Iitz-Piers, who was girt with the sword of the earldom of Essex the day after the coronation of King John, in 1199. Geoffrey, his son and successor, assumed the name of Magnaville; but dying without issue, in 1216, his estates and title descended to his brother William, who entailed them on his sister Maud, wife of Humphrey de Bohun, Earl of Hereford, and Lord High Constable of England; one of whose successors had licence to embattle his manor-house at Walden in 1347. The youngest daughter and co-heir to the last of the De Bohuns, married Henry, Earl of Derby, afterwards Henry the Fourth, whose son, Henry the Fifth, inherited this manor as parcel of his mother's moiety. From this period it appears to have remained in the Crown, till granted, with the site and possessions of the Abbey, to the Lord Chancellor Audley. Margaret, only surviving daughter, and sole heiress to this nobleman, was twice married: first to the Honorable Henry Dudley, slain at the battle of St. Quintin; and secondly, to Thomas Howard, Duke of Norfolk, who being attainted of treason, for attempting to release Mary, Queen of Scots, from imprisonment, was beheaded, and his estates forfeited to the Crown. They were, however, restored in the following year, 1584, to his son, Thomas Howard, who was knighted for his bravery against the Spanish Armada in 1588, made Knight of the Garter in 1597, and created Earl of Suffolk in 1603. The honors lavished on this nobleman by Elizabeth, were increased by her successor, James, by whom, in 1616, he was made Lord High Treasurer, and appointed, with other Lords, to exercise the important office of Earl Marshal of England. It was this nobleman who erected the magnificent mansion, or palace, at *Audley End*; and gave it that name from respect to his maternal ancestor, the Lord Chancellor, from whom he derived the estate; and whose descendant, Lord Braybrooke, is now proprietor.

Walden was made a corporate town, by Edward the Sixth, in the year 1549, at the intercession of John Smith, Esq. brother to the celebrated Sir Thomas Smith. Its government was then vested in twenty persons, out of whom a Treasurer, or chief Officer, and two Chamberlains, were annually chosen. These officers were, by charter of William the Third, changed into a Mayor, twelve Aldermen, a Recorder, Town Clerk, &c. by whom the police is now regulated.

In Dugdale's Baronage, a *notable tournament* is recorded as having been held here in the year 1252, "in which Roger de Leirburne encountered with Ernauld de Montenei, a valiant Knight, and unhappily run his lance into his throat under his helmet, it wanting a collar; whereupon Montenei fell from his horse, and died instantly; upon which it was supposed, by some, that he had left his lance without a socket on purpose, in revenge for a broken leg he had received from Montenei, in tilting with him at a former tournament."

The *Church*, dedicated to the Holy Trinity, is a spacious and most elegant pile of English architecture, chiefly of the age of the Henries, Seventh and Eighth; in the reign of the latter of whom, the east end, and part of the south aisle of the chancel, were built by the Lord Chancellor Audley, who is interred in the vault beneath, together with several of the EARLS and COUNTESSSES OF SUFFOLK. Walpole calls it one of the lightest and most beautiful parish churches in England. It consists of a nave, chancel, and side aisles, with an embattled tower at the west end. Several of the windows are richly ornamented with mullions and tracery; between those in the nave are carved niches for statues. This fabric was thoroughly repaired in the years 1791, 2, and 3, at the expence of little less than 8000*l*. To this the late Lord Howard contributed 1000*l*. for repairing the roof of the nave, and about 1800*l*. more for the repairs of the middle and south chancels, both which, at that time, were his Lordship's property. Besides these magnificent contributions, he was a most generous benefactor to the parish, but particularly to the poor, to whose use he bequeathed the interest of a sufficient sum to clothe twelve of each sex annually

for ever. His Lordship died in May 1797, at Audley End, and is buried with his ancestors in the family vault in this Church. A handsome pew-gallery was erected for him by Mr. Ivory, between the nave and chancel. The altar-piece is a painting by the Rev. Mr Peters, copied from Corregio. The monument for Lord Audley stands in the south aisle; and under an arch adjoining to the chancel, is a mutilated epitaph to the memory of John Leche, vicar of this parish from the year 1489 to 1521, and said to have built the Church.* Many other monumental inscriptions appear in different parts of this fabric, the height of which is 190 feet, and the breadth ninety: the interior is particularly neat and uniform.

At the south-west end of the town are some *Alms-Houses*, founded in the reign of Edward the Sixth. Here is also a *Free-School* of ancient foundation, on which some additional endowments were bestowed by that Monarch, through the influence of SIR THOMAS SMITH,† Secretary to Edward the Sixth, and Queen Elizabeth, who was a native of Walden, and is supposed to have been taught the rudiments of education at this school.

At an old house in this town is a curious relique of old English workmanship. "It consists of a large oaken beam, eight feet six inches in length, and one foot three inches in breadth at the centre, beautifully carved in relief with the following devices. The figure of a TON is cut in a scroll between the syllables MYD and DYL, and being read after them, makes up the word Myddylton; probably the name of the person who once possessed the building; and upon the side of the vessel is a single letter, seemingly an R, to denote his christian name: the date of the year, also, 1387, in Arabian figures, is placed at two transverse angles of the same letter. It is observable, that all the letters, figures, and the bolt of the ton, are formed of the twigs of vines stripped of their leaves."‡ The number of inhabitants in this town, as returned under

* Gough's Camden, Vol. II. p. 61.

† Beauties, Vol. II. p. 63. ‡ See Engraving of this Beam, published by the Society of Antiquaries in 1758.

under the act of 1802, was 3181; that of houses 682. On the green behind the Castle, a singular work is mentioned as existing, by Dr. Stukeley, called the *Maze*, which he supposes to have been a British Cursus, or place of exercise for the soldiery. He describes it as formed by a number of concentric circles, with four outworks issuing from the four sides, all cut in the chalk. About half a mile from the Castle, on the western side, are the remains of an ancient encampment, of an oblong form, called *Pell-Ditches*, or *Repel-Ditches*. The south bank is 730 feet long, twenty high, and fifty broad at the base; and six or eight feet wide at top: the west bank is 588 feet long: both banks and ditches are extremely bold, and well preserved.

AUDLEY END, or AUDLEY HOUSE, with its demesnes, continued in the possession of the Earls of Suffolk, who derived it from the Lord Audley, as related under Walden, till James, the third Earl, sold the house and park to Charles the Second for 50,000*l*. Great part of this sum remained on mortgage; and the hearth-tax* is said to have been pledged to the Earls of Suffolk as collateral security; but this tax being taken off after the Revolution, the premises are understood to have been restored to the family for the value of the mortgage. Henry, the tenth Earl, dying without issue in the year 1745, the title devolved on Henry Bowes Howard, a descendant from Thomas, the first Earl; and the Essex estates, including the house, were some time in litigation between the late Earl of Effingham, and the representatives of the two daughters of James, the third Earl, who made an act of settlement in their favor in the year 1687. The present noble possessor, Richard Aldworth Nevill Griffin, Lord Braybrooke, obtained the inheritance, by the bequest of the late Lord Howard, in 1797; to whom, indeed, he was the nearest relation by the female line.†

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AUDLEY

* Morant's Essex, Vol. II. p. 550.

† Lord Braybrooke is Lord Lieutenant of the county of Essex; an office that has been conferred on several of the possessors of this mansion.

AUDLEY HOUSE is situated in a finely wooded park, at the distance of about one mile west from Saffron Walden. The present mansion, though a large and magnificent structure, consists only of a small part of the original building, as it has suffered different curtailments at various times. In its original and perfect state, it was justly ranked among the most splendid and capacious mansions of this country; and, if not superior, was nearly equal to the palaces of Hampton Court, Nonsuch, and Richmond. At the period of its erection, it was a prevailing fashion to build large, rather than comfortable, or handsome, houses, and to aim at magnitude, in preference to beauty or elegance. Influenced by this sentiment, Thomas Howard, the first Earl of Suffolk, determined to have "an immense pile of building," as Walpole observes; and vast sums were expended in the erection and embellishment of this structure. It is said that this Earl sold an estate, which was valued at 10,000*l.* a year, for the purpose of carrying on, and completing, these works; and that he was assisted by "large contributions" from his uncle, the Earl of Northampton. A model* of the intended building was procured from Italy, which cost 500*l.* and the whole expence of erecting the house, is stated to amount to 190,000*l.*† It appears that different architects, or builders, were employed; as Walpole names *two persons* of equal pretensions to this honor; John Thorpe, and Bernard Janson. The former, observes Walpole, "was a capital artist, who designed, or improved, most of the principal and palatial edifices erected in the reigns of Elizabeth and James.

From

* At the time of erecting this building, it was a common practice to have *models* of houses, instead of architectural plans, elevations, &c. One of these working patterns was made for the temporary palace used by Henry the Eighth, in the Champ de Drap d'Or, in France. A similar kind of model has also been made for a palace intended to be built at Richmond, which Mr. Gough says was designed by his present Majesty, and cost 700*l.* This is shewn at Hampton Court, with another designed for the late King.

† "I have heard my Lord Treasurer Suffolk once tell King James, that inside and outside, in the furniture, it cost him 200,000*l.* sterling." *MS. Note of Phillip Earl of Pembroke, in his copy of Jones's Stonehenge.*

From a volume of his drawings, in the possession of the Earl of Warwick, it appears that he either designed, supervised, or proposed alterations to the buildings of Somerset House; Buckhurst House, in Sussex; Burleigh House; Burleigh on the Hill; Holland House, at Kensington; Ampthill House, Bedfordshire; Copped Hall; Giddy Hall; and Audley Inn, in Essex." The taste of all these stately mansions, continues Walpole, "was that bastard kind which intervened between Gothic and Grecian architecture; or which, perhaps, was the style that had been invented for the houses of the nobility, when, on the settlement of the kingdom after the termination of the quarrel between the Roses, they first ventured to abandon their fortified dungeons, and consult convenience and magnificence." It is probable that the works at Audley End were executed under the direction and superintendence of the noble Proprietor himself. When the mansion was completed, it consisted of various ranges of building, which surrounded two quadrangular courts. That to the west was very spacious, and was approached through a grand entrance gateway between four round towers. On the north and south sides were corridors, supported by columns of alabaster; and on the east side was an entrance into the Great Hall. Passing through this, there was a smaller square court, three sides of which remain, and constitute the present mansion. In its perfect state, the entire pile appeared like a large college, with numerous turrets, cupolas, and pinnacles. The rooms were large, inconvenient, and many of them unpleasant; and to keep the whole in good repair, required an immense fortune: great part was in consequence pulled down, and the materials sold. The marble pillars of the Chapel were purchased by Lord Onslow; and King William bought some pieces of tapestry, now preserved at Windsor, for which he paid 4500*l*. At the east end of the building was a gallery measuring 226 feet in length, thirty-two feet in width, and twenty-four feet in height. This, with some other apartments, was taken down by the Countess of Portsmouth in 1749. The western quadrangle, says Mr. Walpole, was destroyed by the advice of "that injudicious architect," Sir John Vanbrugh, who designed the uncouth screen at the south end of the Hall.

The western, or grand entrance front of the present mansion, is ornamented with two uniform projecting porches, each having seventeen marble columns at the angles. Some of these are white, with black bases and capitals; the others are of dark veined marble, with white bases and capitals. The ballustrade of these, and of the house, is perforated, and variously ornamented; and the summit is adorned with eight turrets, and several clustered chimnies. All the windows are large, and square headed, with numerous stone mullions; and many of them project from the rooms. Attached to the west front are two leaden water spouts, which were probably placed there when the house was in the possession of the Crown, being inscribed thus:

I. R. 1686. (for James Rex,) and W. M. 1689. (for William and Mary.)

The various apartments were furnished and decorated, in a costly and elegant style, by the late Lord Howard, who employed different artists to render the interior highly splendid and handsome. The *Hall* still preserves part of its ancient character; and though some injudicious alterations have been made, it presents an interesting specimen of the magnitude and ornaments which characterized these apartments in old baronial mansions. It has a double flight of stone stairs at one end; and a curiously carved and ornamented wood screen, with hatch, and music gallery, at the other; it is lighted by five windows, the largest projecting from the centre, and reaching nearly from the ceiling to the floor. In this recess is a large handsome marble pedestal, with basso-relievos in the plinth.

At the top of the Hall stairs is the *Saloon*, or, as it is sometimes termed, the *Fish-Room*; so called from a stuccoed ceiling, ornamented with pendants, and numerous fish, in different compartments. The frieze, cornice, pilasters, and other parts, are richly decorated with carving and gilding; and the chimney-piece contains some beautiful miniature paintings, with arms of the Howard family, &c. In this elegant apartment are also full length portraits of the following distinguished personages, copied from Holbein, Kneller, and other masters; and all of whom are
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in some degree connected with the history of this estate and mansion. These paintings are let into the pannels, on one of which is the following inscription :

“HENRY VIII. A. D. 1539, GRANTED THE MONASTERY OF WALDEN, ON THE SITE OF WHICH THIS HOUSE NOW STANDS, TO LORD CHANCELLOR AUDELEY. ELIZABETH, A. D. 1597, BY SPECIAL WRIT, SUMMONED TO PARLIAMENT THOMAS LORD HOWARD DE WALDEN, IN THE NEXT REIGN CREATED EARL OF SUFFOLK. HE BUILT THIS HOUSE A. D. 1616. AFTER MANY REDUCTIONS, IT DESCENDED, A. D. 1762, TO SIR JOHN GRIFFIN GRIFFIN, K. B. CONFIRMED LORD HOWARD DE WALDEN, GEO. 3. A. D. 1784. HE, AMONG OTHER ADDITIONS AND ALTERATIONS, REFITTED (THE CEILING EXCEPTED) THIS SALOON, TO COMMEMORATE THE NOBLE FAMILIES THROUGH WHOM, WITH GRATITUDE, HE HOLDS THESE POSSESSIONS.”

HENRY THE EIGHTH; from an original, by Holbein, at Kensington Palace.

QUEEN ELIZABETH; from an original, by Zuccaro, at Hatfield House.

LORD CHANCELLOR AUDLEY, K. G. from Holbein.

MARGARET, daughter and heiress of Lord Chancellor Audley, second wife to Thomas, Duke of Norfolk; from a Portrait in the possession of the Norfolk family.

THOMAS HOWARD, Duke of Norfolk, K. G. 1572.

THOMAS, EARL OF SUFFOLK, Lord High Treasurer to James the First, and youngest son to Thomas, Duke of Norfolk, by Margaret, his second wife; at Knole, the seat of the Duke of Dorset. The original was painted at the time he was Lord Chamberlain.

THEOPHILUS, EARL OF SUFFOLK, K. G. eldest son of Thomas, Earl of Suffolk; from an original in the family. All the above were copied by Rebecca.

JAMES, EARL OF SUFFOLK, K. B. eldest son of Theophilus; from an original late at Dingley, in Northamptonshire, the ancient seat of the Griffin family; copied by Zeeman.

SUSANNAH,

SUSANNAH, daughter of Henry, Earl of Holland, first wife of James, Earl of Suffolk; by Zeeman, from the original at Dingley.

LADY ESSEX, sole daughter of James, Earl of Suffolk, by his first wife, and the eldest of his two co-heiresses, married to Edward, the first Lord Griffin, of Dingley; original, by Sir Peter Lely.

EDWARD, FIRST LORD GRIFFIN; by Zeeman, from Sir Peter Lely.

JAMES, LORD GRIFFIN, only son of Edward, Lord Griffin; by Zeeman, from Sir Godfrey Kneller.

ELIZABETH, COUNTESS OF PORTSMOUTH, eldest daughter of James, Lord Griffin; by Jervis.

HONORABLE ANN WHITWELL, youngest daughter of James, Lord Griffin; by Rebecca, from Degarr.

JOHN GRIFFIN GRIFFIN, Lord Howard de Walden, and Baron Braybrooke, son of William Whitwell, Esq. of Northamptonshire, and of Ann, his wife; by Rebecca.

In the *Anti-Room* are some curious old portraits, among which is a half length of LORD CHANCELLOR AUDLEY; presumed to be by Holbein. Sir Thomas Audley, says Lloyd, in his *State Worthies*, had a "soul which ennobled his body, and a body that graced his soul: the one quick, solid, apprehensive, and judicious; the other, tall and majestic."

Portrait of ALGERNON PERCY, Earl of Northumberland; Vandyke. This nobleman is represented at full length, resting on an anchor.

A small head of THOMAS, DUKE OF NORFOLK; supposed to be painted by Mytens.

SIR BENJAMIN RUDGER; by the same master.

In the *State Dressing-Room* is a valuable full length portrait of GEORGE THE SECOND, by Pine. This picture is acknowledged to be the most correct likeness extant of this Monarch; and his present Majesty has, in consequence, had it copied for his own collection. It has been engraved in Mezzotinto by Dickinson.

PRINCE FERDINAND, and THE PRINCE OF BRUNSWICK; half lengths.

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The *State Bed-Room* is fitted up in a most sumptuous and elegant style, with blue silk bed furniture, ornamented with gold lace, &c. The *Library*, though not large, contains a collection of choice books; among which are two volumes of penned sketches, by Ghezzi, whose execution nearly resembles Callot's: The subjects are mostly portraits of distinguished characters in the court of Lewis the Fourteenth. This apartment is embellished with portraits of the late Lord Howard, and his two wives. These were painted by the present worthy and scientific President of the Royal Academy, who has not only perpetuated a good likeness of his Lordship, but has given interest and value to the picture, by the style of composing it, and the historical emblems in the back ground, &c. His Lordship is represented seated in a contemplative position in his tent, with his military coat thrown over his shoulders.

A portrait of LORD BRAYBROOKE, by Romney; and another of GENERAL HERVEY, by Abbot.

Over the cloisters is a long *Gallery* full of pictures; and among them, a sweet little Landscape, with figures, by V. Goyen, dated 1642. A pair of Landscapes, by Vernet. A Winter Scene, view in Holland, with figures; by Berkley. A House on Fire; Vanderneer. And the Inside of a Church; P. Neefs.

At the north-west corner of the House is an elegant domestic CHAPEL, which was constructed, and highly ornamented, by the late Lord Howard. It is fitted up in imitation of the most improved style of English architecture, with clustered columns, pointed arches, and fan-groined tracery; and, in imitation of a Cathedral, it has a nave, side aisles, and transepts in miniature. At one end is the family seat, or gallery, the roof of which is decorated with the family arms, combining all the quarterings. The windows are filled with painted glass, by Pickett, of York, who executed them in 1771, from designs by Biaggio Rebecca.

The *grounds* at Audley End are pleasingly diversified with hill and dale: the summits and sides of the former are richly adorned with wood; the latter is enlivened with the clear waters of the river Granta, which forms a wide canal in front of the house. A hand-

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some *Bridge* of three arches was built across this river by the late Mr. Adams, in 1764.

On the top of *Ring Hill*, to the west of the mansion, is a circular Temple, occupying the site of an *ancient tower*, which Dr. Stukeley has given a print of, with some account, in his Itinerary, but which appears to have been only the remains of a Warren-house, or Belvidere. The whole summit of this hill is inclosed with an entrenchment nearly circular, including an area of about fifteen acres. Salmon supposes it to have been the *Canonium* of the Itinerary, and that the Ermine-Street passed it from Barkway, in Hertfordshire; but these conjectures are not supported by other antiquaries. That a military Way was near it, is, however, evident, from the names of *Stretley* (now Littlebury Green) and *Strethall*, a neighbouring village; as well as from other circumstances: this Way appears to have communicated with Chesterford.

At LITTLEBURY, a village about one mile north from Audley End, was another encampment, within the area of which the present Church is built. The latter is a small, plain fabric, having a body, chancel, and side aisles: near it is an *Alms-House* and *Free-School*. This manor, and that of Hadstock, were granted, by Queen Elizabeth, to Thomas Sutton, Esq. the munificent founder of the Charter-House, who bequeathed them, in 1611, to Thomas, Earl of Suffolk, on condition of the latter paying 10,000*l.* within one twelvemonth. After the death of the tenth Earl, in 1745, Littlebury became part of the allotment made to the Earl of Bristol, by the deed of partition made in consequence of the decision which vested that property in the descendants and co-heiresses of James, third Earl of Suffolk.

Mr. Henry Winstanley, a descendant from an ancient family established at Walden, and celebrated from his lamentable fate in the Light-house erected by himself on the Edystone Rock, was a resident in this village. This gentleman was "Clerk of his Majesty's Works at Newmarket, and also of those at Audley End." Of the latter he published a book, containing twenty-one

coarsely

coarsely engraved prints of plans, elevations, bird's-eye views, &c. This work is become rare; and, though very badly executed in regard to the drawing and engraving, yet it is a curious and interesting representation of a magnificent mansion, whose character and extent would otherwise have been forgotten. Mr. Winstanley was at one time a prisoner in France, and was offered a liberal salary, by the French King, to remain in that country, which he refused. He invented the famous water-works near Hyde Park Corner. After his death, the government allowed his widow 100*l.* a year, during her widowhood; but she soon married Tessier, a French painter, and concealing the marriage, continued to enjoy the pension. Winstanley's prints, plans, &c. were dispersed after the death of his widow. His portrait, with prints of the Edystone Light-house, were lately in the possession of Mr. John Stanley, a Bookseller at Walden. The memorable storm, in the year 1703, destroyed both the Light-house and its architect.*

In *Christ-Hall Park*, about five miles west from Littlebury, at the north-east corner, is an earth-work of a circular form, with a ditch five or six feet deep, and mounts raised at four places near the edge.†

SHORTGROVE, about two miles south from Audley End, is the manor and seat of — Smith, Esq. by whom it was purchased of the Hon. Percy Wyndham, a descendant from the Earls of Thomond, who were seated here during great part of the last century. The mansion is a handsome building, with wings, occupying the summit of a pleasant eminence, and having in front the river Granta flowing at the foot of a lawn encompassed by plantations. Behind the house is a second lawn, with pleasure grounds, and canals, supplied with water from the river, by an engine invented by Dr. Desaguliers.

NEWPORT, anciently a market-town, is now a long straggling village, chiefly consisting of one street, occupying the sides of the high road, and nearly uniting on the north with the hamlet of Birch-angre. In the reign of Edward the Confessor, it belonged to Earl Harold,

* Beauties, Vol. IV. p. 192.

† Morant's Essex, Vol. II. p. 603.

Harold, afterwards King, on whose defeat and death, at the Battle of Hastings, it became the property of the Conqueror. Maud, the Empress, granted lands here to Geoffrey de Magnaville; and also the privilege of removing the market to the seat of his own barony at Walden:* it does not, however, appear to have been entirely removed till after the time of Henry the Third.† In the year 1203, it was held by Gerard de Furnivall, who obtained the privilege of holding a fair here from King John, to whom, four years afterwards, the patent was again surrendered, together with the town and *Castle*:‡ of the latter, no further particulars are known. The manor was afterwards possessed by various families; but not finally granted from the Crown till the reign of Edward the Sixth, who bestowed it on Richard Fermor. About the time of Charles the First, it became the property of the Earls of Suffolk; and on the partition of the estates in the last century, was allotted to the Earl of Bristol, who sold it to the Earl of Thomond.

The *Church*, dedicated to St. Mary, is a spacious building, consisting of a nave, side aisles, and chancel, with a lofty tower at the west end, having embattled turrets. Before the year 1353, it belonged to the collegiate Church of St. Martin-le-Grand, in London; and, with that, was bestowed on the Monastery of St. Peter, Westminster, by Henry the Seventh. An *Hospital* for a Master and two Chaplains was founded here by Richard de Newport, in the reign of King John, and dedicated to St. Leonard and St. Mary. On the Suppression, its revenues were valued at 23l. 10s. 3d. The original building is yet supposed to be standing on the Birchangre side. A *Free Grammar-School* was founded here in the year 1588, and endowed with rents to the amount of 23l. 10s. annually, by the Will (dated February 20th, 1586) of *Joyce Franchland*, of Stanstead Abbot, Hertfordshire. Of this sum 20l. was bequeathed for the support of a School Master; 2l. to the Master of Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge, for his trouble

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* See p. 384.

† Pleas, &c. 37 Hen. III. Rot. 15. dorso.

‡ Cartæ Antiquæ, m. 13, and 22. et Placita, 9 Joh. rot. 9.

in directing the government of the School, and visiting it once annually; (at which annual visitation, he is directed, by the Will, to remove three, four, or more of the scholars to his own College; there to place them in the Scholarships of the foundation of the said Joyce Franckland, and William Saxie, her son;) and the remaining 1l. 10s. for the repairs of the School-House.

The endowments, which consist of the tythe of *Bamesfelde*, in Surry, two houses in Distaff Lane, London, and two houses or tenements at Hoddesdon, in Hertfordshire, were vested in certain trustees to be applied under the direction of the Will; but the trustees having grossly neglected their duty, a decree of Chancery was obtained in the seventeenth of George the Second, for enforcing attention to the objects of the charity, and for vesting the property in new trustees. From the enquiry which preceded the decree, it appeared, that the annual revenues had greatly increased, from the rise of rents and improvements in agriculture; that the Master of Gonville and Caius College had not visited the school for eight years, though in the receipt of 7l. annually from its proceeds; and that "the sum of 1446l. not applied pursuant to the Will," was then in the hands of the schoolmaster. This enquiry and decree, have not, however, been followed by their expected consequences: the new trustees have displayed almost equal inattention with the former ones; and the property bequeathed for the support of the school, now supposed to produce nearly 200l. a year, can be only considered as the endowment of a sinecure held by the Master. An investigation into this fraud on the purposes of benevolence, is, we understand, now making by a committee of the most respectable inhabitants of Newport and its vicinity, and a second appeal to the Court of Chancery is projected. The inhabitants of this parish, as returned under the late act, amounted to 663; the houses to 127: a few of the latter are good buildings; but many, even in Newport itself, are only thatched cottages.

At CLAVERING, a small village, but formerly the head of the barony of Clavering, are the keep and moat of an ancient *Castle*, the walls of which have been long destroyed. This manor,

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at the time of the Domesday Survey, was in the possession of Suene, the greatest landholder in this county, wherein he had fifty-five Lordships. Hugh de Essex, his grandson, being vanquished in single combat, on a charge of cowardice, by Robert de Montfort, his estates were seized by Henry the Second, who granted Clavering to Robert Fitz-Roger, the son of Alice, Hugh's wife, whose descendants obtained the surname of Clavering from their residence here. This family continued owners till the latter end of the reign of Edward the Third, when it was conveyed to the Nevilles, Lords of Raby, from whom it has passed through various noble families to the *Barringtons*, several of whom have represented this county in Parliament. In the *Church* are various monuments of the *Barlees*, who held a manor in this parish; and, under an arch in the north wall, is an ancient tomb of some unknown personage, whose effigies is represented in armour, with his right-hand on his left breast, holding a sword.

BERDEN, to the south of Clavering, was the site of a small Priory of Augustine Canons, founded by the *de Rochfords*, who held lands here in the time of Henry the Third, and dedicated to St. John the Evangelist. At the period of the Dissolution, its possessions were valued at 29l. 6s. 4d. and were granted to Henry Parker; but afterwards alienated by Sir Thomas Ramsey, to the Governors of the Hospitals of Christ, Bridewell, and St. Thomas, in London. The learned JOSEPH MEDE. A. M. was born at Berden, in the year 1586. In 1602 he became a student at Christ's College, Cambridge, of which he was afterwards chosen Fellow, and was remarked for his intense application. His love for knowledge was particularly displayed by his refusal of several valuable preferments, from an apprehension that the duties attending them would interrupt his pursuits. He died in the year 1638: his Comment on the Apocalypse is generally regarded as his most valuable work.

DEBDEN HALL is a handsome stone mansion, erected by Mr. Holland for the late Richard Muilman Trench Chiswell, Esq. whose widow is the present resident. The grounds are pleasant, and are interspersed with gardens and plantations. *Debden Church*,

which stands at a little distance, owes some portion of its neatness to the late Mr. Chiswell, who erected several family monuments, richly ornamented in the pointed-arch style, in an octangular Chapel at the east end. The font, an elegant piece of workmanship in Coad's artificial stone, ornamented with statues, was also of his gift.

THAXTED

Is an ancient town, and probably existed in the Saxon times, as the Church is recorded* to have belonged, in the reign of Edward the Confessor, to the College of St. John Baptist, at Clare, in Suffolk. After the Conquest, the lordship of Clare, and many other manors, including Thaxted, were given to Richard Fitz-Gilbert, ancestor of the noble family surnamed De Clare, who held this manor till the year 1314, when Gilbert de Clare, son of Gilbert, surnamed the Red, being slain at the Battle of Bannocks-burn, his estates were divided among his three sisters and co-heiresses. Margaret, the second sister, was married to Hugh de Audley, afterwards Earl of Gloucester, who obtained Thaxted in right of his wife. In the reign of Edward the Second, it was held as parcel of the earldom of Gloucester, by Bartholomew, Lord Badlesmere, to whom the liberty of free-warren, and of holding an annual fair here, were granted by the King. His son, Giles de Badlesmere, dying without issue, this manor was equally divided among his four sisters, all of whom had married into noble families. Three parts of the manor came afterwards into the possession of the Mortimers, Earls of March, and were re-united with the Honor of Clare, which this family had obtained by marriage: the fourth part descended to the Le de Spencers, and from them obtained the name of Spencer's-fee. The Honor of Clare having reverted to the Crown by the marriage of Elizabeth, daughter of Edward the Fourth, to Henry the Seventh, was settled, by the son and successor of the latter, on Catharine of Arragon, afterwards his Queen, who, in 1514, granted the "manor and borough of

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Thaxted"

Thaxted" to Sir John Cutts, Knt. to hold during her life, under a rent of 57l. 7s. and soon afterwards, the reversion, in fee-farm, was granted to the same Knight by the King. Sir John Cutts, Knt. his great grandson, was renowned for his hospitality* and magnificent style of living, which seems to have embarrassed his circumstances, as he was obliged by licence, dated April, 1599, to vest the "manor and borough of Thaxted, and Spencer's-fee," in trust to Thomas Kemp, Esq. who had before purchased a reputed manor in this parish, called Coldham's-fee. Soon afterwards Thaxted became the property of Sir William Smyth, Knt. of Hill-Hall, in this county; and has since continued in the possession of his descendants.

Thaxted was incorporated by charter of Philip and Mary, and its government vested in a Mayor, Bailiffs, and Chief Burgesses. This charter was confirmed by Queen Elizabeth, but rendered valueless, either by the fears or poverty of the corporate Officers, who, on being served with a *Quo Warranto* in the time of James the Second, thought fit to retire from their offices in silence. From a visitation of heralds in 1637, it appears, that Thaxted had then a Mayor, Recorder, two Bailiffs, and about twenty principal Burgesses; of whom ten had passed the mayoralty, and that they had a common seal, but no arms. The market, which had for a long period been discontinued, has of late years been revived, but is not much frequented. It is probable that it was first granted to Bartholomew, Lord Badlesmere, by Edward the Second, at the time when the former obtained the privilege of a fair here, and liberty of free-warren. The number of houses in this town, as ascertained under the Population Act, in 1802, was 365; of inhabitants, 1894.

The *Church*, a very large and beautiful structure, appears, from the various arms and cognizances on its several parts, to have been built at different times in the fourteenth century. Its dedication seems unknown, as it is ascribed, by different authors, respectively to St. John Baptist, to the Virgin Mary, and to St.

* Beauties, Vol. II. p. 117.

St. Lawrence. The whole fabric is embattled, and supported by strong buttresses, terminated by canopied niches, and curiously purfled pinnacles: below the niches, on each buttress, is a singular or grotesque head, with a spout issuing from the mouth to carry off the water from the roof. The windows are mostly large, and pointed; many of them are also ornamented with tracery, and painted glass; but the latter is very much broken, and otherwise defaced. The north porch is richly ornamented with sculpture; and the cornice, and upper part, charged with various figures: above the entrance are two escutcheons; one containing the arms of France and England; the other, the arms of the House of York: over these are two windows, in the arch of each of which is a crown supported by a hand; between the windows is a handsome niche. At the west end is an embattled tower, sustained by buttresses, and terminated by a neat octagonal spire, rising to the height of 181 feet. The circumference of the entire building, including the projection of the buttresses, is 345 yards. The interior consists of a nave, transept, chancel, and side aisles; and it may be remarked, that the nave is not so wide as either of the latter. The arches of the nave are pointed, and supported by eight clustered columns on each side: the chancel is neat, and displays various cognizances of Edward the Fourth. The length of the Church is 183 feet; its breadth, eighty-seven.

The expence of the erection of this building was principally defrayed by the noble families of Clare and Mortimer; with some assistance from an individual of the House of York, Edward the Fourth. The most ancient part is supposed to have been built at the charge of Elizabeth, Lady Clare, daughter of Gilbert, surnamed the Red, and his second wife, Joan of Acres, daughter of Edward the First. William de Burgh, Earl of Ulster, and son of Lady Clare, built the nave previous to the year 1340: his son-in-law, Lionel, Duke of Clarence, erected the south porch, on which is carved the ducal coronet, between the years 1362 and 1368. The north aisle, and north part of the transept, were raised about the year 1380, by Edmund, Earl of March, who was much celebrated for his skill in architecture; and it is observed, that these

portions of the Church are most distinguished for superior elegance and taste, displayed in the ornaments and disposition of the parts. The chancel was began by the house of March, but completed by Edward the Fourth, as appears from the various armorial bearings of that Sovereign, who is also thought to have been at the charge of the north porch. Edmund, last Earl of March, is supposed, from the arms on some of the arches, to have built the tower, which was intended to have been erected at the intersection of the nave and transept, but probably this design was abandoned from a fear of injuring the other parts of the building by its weight. This nobleman died in the year 1424. A chantry, valued, on the Suppression, at 11l. 19s. 10d. per annum, and twenty obits, besides various altars and chapels, existed here in the Catholic times. This Church underwent considerable repairs during the last century.

The charitable benefactions for the use of the poor inhabitants of this parish are considerable. The estate called Yendleys, deriving its name from Thomas Yendale, who resided on it in the reign of Henry the Sixth, was, on his death, vested in feoffees in trust for his four sons, and their issue; or, in default of such issue, to be sold for the benefit of the church and poor, and for the repairs of the adjacent highways. The sons all dying childless, the estate was sold, in the fifth of Henry the Seventh, and the produce established as a fund for the payment of the tenths and fifteenths that might be levied on the parish by the government; or, when not wanted for this purpose, the revenues were to be applied to general uses. The mode of taxation by tenths and fifteenths having been long discontinued, the produce of the fund is now applied to the support of a *School*, repairing the Church, improving the highways, &c. William, Lord Maynard, by Will, dated May the 30th, 1698, bequeathed 4000l. for purchasing the rectory of Thaxted, or some other of equal value, to be vested in trustees for the purpose of increasing the salary of the minister, repairing and beautifying the Church, marrying poor virgins, binding out apprentices, relieving poor people overburthened with children, and for other purposes. The rectory of Thaxted being entailed in such a man-

ner,

ner, that it could not be obtained, that of Potten, in Bedfordshire, and some estates in Suffolk, were purchased with the above sum; the proceeds of which are applied according to the directions of the donor. Among the other benefactions, are endowments for *Alms-Houses* situated in different parts of the town: one of the buildings appropriated to this use, is the ancient *Chantry-house*. The ancient *Guildhall* is now the parish workhouse: the *Mote-hall* is used for the school.

SAMUEL PURCHAS, B. D. was born at Thaxted in the year 1677, and received his education at Cambridge. Granger represents him as a man of general learning; and observes, that, with great pains and industry, he enlarged and perfected Hakluyt's *Collection of Voyages and Travels*, "a work not only valuable for the various instruction and amusement contained in it, but also very estimable on a national, and, I may add, a religious account." He died in 1628, in distressed circumstances, through the charges of publication. His compilation, called *Purchas his Pilgrimage*, &c. extends to five volumes folio.

In the *Church* at GREAT BRADFELD, formerly a market-town, was a chantry founded and endowed with the sum of 6l. 13s. 4d. annually, by the celebrated WILLIAM BENDLOWES, sole Sergeant-at-law for seventy-three days in the reign of Queen Mary. This gentleman died in the year 1584, and was buried in the chancel, where a long Latin epitaph records his abilities and virtues.

At TILTEY, anciently called *Tileteia*, was an ABBEY of Cistercian Monks, founded in the year 1193, by Maurice* Fitz-Geffery, who endowed it with the whole manor. This Abbey was dedicated to St. Mary, and situated in a beautiful vale, surrounded by trees. The only remains are part of a cloister, and a small building in the pointed style, now used as the Parish *Church*, but traditionally said to have been the Stranger's Chapel, which stood at the Abbey gate. The east window is ornamented with tracery,

C c 3

and

* This was the same Maurice that founded the Priory at Bycknacre;
see p. 273.

and on each side is a niche for a statue: in the interior are four ancient stone stalls. The possessions of this Abbey were, at the period of the Dissolution, valued at 176l. 2s. 6d. per annum, according to Dugdale; and were then granted to the Lord Chancellor Audley. Thomas, first Earl of Suffolk, sold the premises, including the manor of Tiltey, for 5000l. to Henry Maynard, Esq. in whose family they still continue.

In the parish of LITTLE DUNMOW was a PRIORY of Augustine Canons, founded to the honor of the Virgin Mary, in the year 1104, by the Lady Juga, sister of Ralph Baynard, who held the manor at the time of the Domesday Survey; and from whose family Baynard's Castle, in London, obtained its name. Its annual revenues, on the Suppression, were estimated, according to Speed, at 173l. 2s. 4d. Henry the Eighth granted the site of the Priory, and the manor of Little Dunmow, to Robert, Earl of Sussex; but they have since been in the possession of various families. The monastic buildings were situated on a rising ground, south-west from the Church, but are now entirely razed; and some part of the site is occupied by the present manor-house.

The *Priory Church* was a large and stately fabric: the roof was sustained on rows of columns, having capitals ornamented with oak leaves, elegantly carved; "some of these remain in the part now used as the parish Church, which includes only the east end of the choir, and the north aisle.*

"Here, under an arch in the south wall, is an ancient chest-like tomb, supposed to contain the body of the foundress, Lady Juga. Near the same spot is a monument, said to have been that of Walter Fitz-Walter, the first of that name, who died anno 1198, and was buried with one of his wives in the middle of the choir, whence it has been removed to its present situation. The figures of Sir Walter and his Lady are well executed for the time they were done, but are much defaced, probably by the removal, particularly the man, whose legs are broken off at the knees: the
Lady

* Gough says, the present Church is "only the south aisle and five arches of the nave." *Britannia*, Vol. II. p. 54.

Lady has on a tiara, or mitre-like head-dress, ornamented with lace, ear-rings, and a necklace. Sir Walter is represented in plate armour, under it a shirt of mail, which appears at his collar, and below the skirts of his armour. There is something remarkable in the appearance of his hair, which seems to radiate from a centre, somewhat like the curl of a wig, but curling inwards. This fashion of hair, or wig, (for it appears doubtful which was intended,) is observable on divers monuments of the same age, as is also the head-dress of the Lady.

“ Opposite this monument, between two pillars on the north side of the choir, is the tomb of the fair Matilda, daughter of the second Walter Fitz-Walter, who, according to the Monkish story, unsupported by history, is pretended to have been poisoned by the contrivance of King John, for refusing to gratify his illicit passion. Her figure is in alabaster, and by no means a despicable piece of workmanship. Both this figure, and that of the Lady Fitz-Walter, afford accurate specimens of the necklaces, ear-rings, and other ornaments worn by the ladies in those days.”* The Fitz-Walters are said to have possessed this lordship as parcel of their barony for eleven generations.

The ancient and well-known custom of this manor, of delivering a *Gammon*, or *Flitch of Bacon*, to any married couple who would take a prescribed oath, is supposed, by some writers, to have originated in the Saxon or Norman times: others attribute its institution to the Fitz-Walters, but with what propriety is uncertain. It appears, however, from the different entries in the Register, as ‘*secundum formam donationis*,’ and ‘*secundum charter formam*,’ to have been imposed on the possessors of the manor by some benefactor. The earliest delivery of the bacon on record,† occurred in the twenty-third of Henry the Sixth, when Richard Wright, of Bradbourne, in Norfolk, having been duly sworn before the Prior and Convent, had a Flitch of Bacon delivered to him, agreeably to

C c 4

the

* Grose’s Antiquities, Vol. VIII. p. 67.

† Manuscript in the College of Arms, marked L. 14, p. 226.

the tenure. The ceremonial established for these occasions, consisted in the claimant's kneeling on two sharp-pointed stones in the church-yard, and there, after solemn chanting, and other rites, performed by the Convent, taking the following oath:

You shall swear by custom of confession,
That you ne'er made nuptial transgression;
Nor since you were married man and wife,
By household brawls or contentious strife,
Or otherwise at bed or at board,
Offended each other in deed or in word;
Or since the parish-clerk said Amen,
Wished yourselves unmarried again;
Or in a twelvemonth and a day,
Repented not in thought any way;
But continued true in thought and desire,
As when you join'd hands in holy quire.
If to these conditions without all fear,
Of your own accord you will freely swear,
A whole *Gammon of Bacon* you shall receive,
And bear it hence with love and good leave;
For this is our custom at Dunmow well known;
Tho' the pleasure be ours, the Bacon's your own.

In the Chartulary of the Priory, now in the British Museum, three persons are recorded to have received the bacon previous to the suppression of the religious houses. Since that period, also, the bacon has been thrice delivered; in these cases the ceremonies have been performed at a court-baron for the manor held by the Steward. The last persons that received it, were John Shakeshanks, woolcomber, and Anne his wife, of Wethersfield, who established their right on the 20th of June, 1751. Mr. Gough mentions the custom* as abolished; but we understand it is only dormant either through the want of claimants, or from their neglect to enforce the demand. Several of the Hallet family, who possessed the manor, lie buried in the Church.

GREAT

* In a volume of Poems, lately published under the title of *Syr Reginalde*, or, *The Black Tower*, by E. W. Brayley, and W. Herbert, is a Ballad founded on this custom, but the catastrophe is varied.

GREAT DUNMOW

Is supposed, by several Antiquaries, to have been the site of a Roman station. Bishop Gibson has assigned to it the name of *Cæsaromagus*; and Mr. Drake, in a letter, published in the fifth volume of the *Archæologia*, strengthens its claim to this appellation; not only by referring to the situation of Dunmow on a Roman road, but also by mentioning Roman coins that have been found here; particularly a gold coin of Honorius, and some large brass of the Emperor Commodus. In Lord Maynard's estate, adjoining Dunmow, Roman Denarii have also been found, of Gallienus, Tiberias, Posthumius, Victorinus, and others of the thirty Tyrants.

At the time of the Domesday Survey, this manor was held by Richard Fitz-Gilbert, and Hamo Dapifer, in the last of whom it appears to have centred, and whose niece, Mabel, obtained it as parcel of her inheritance. It afterwards became incorporated with the honor of Clare, and descended with that to the House of York. Henry the Eighth, in the year 1509, gave this manor in dower to his Queen, Catherine of Arragon; but it having reverted to the Crown, Edward the Sixth granted it to William, Marquis of Northampton. It next became the property of Sir Richard Weston, a Justice of the Common Pleas; but was finally purchased of the Crown by William, first Lord Maynard, in the year 1634. His descendant, Charles, created Viscount Maynard, in 1764, by his present Majesty, is now proprietor.

This town is pleasantly situated on an eminence near the river Chelmer: it consists principally of two streets. The privilege of holding the market was granted by Henry the Third, in the year 1253. The government is vested in a Bailiff and twelve Burgesses, chosen under a charter granted in the second and third of Philip and Mary, and afterwards confirmed by Queen Elizabeth. The number of houses, as enumerated in 1802, was 392; the number of inhabitants 1828. The poorer classes derive employment from the manufacture of baize and blankets.

The

The *Church*, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, is a large ancient building, consisting of a nave, chancel, and aisles, with an embattled tower at the west end. Over the entrance into the latter, are various shields of arms, carved in stone, and among them those of the noble families of Mortimer, Bohun, Bouchier, and Braybrooke, who are supposed to have contributed towards the erection or repairs of the structure. At a short distance to the west is an ancient brick mansion, belonging to Lady Beaumont, mother of Sir George Beaumont.

At *Merks Hill*, in this parish, among earth and rubbish in a gravel-pit, several small urns, some small pieces of brass, and copper coins of Trajan and Antoninus, were discovered in the year 1760. The urns were ranged in regular order; the largest of a pint size, and the three smallest equal to a small tea-cup.*

EASTON LODGE, the venerable seat of Charles, Viscount Maynard, is pleasantly situated on high ground, in a spacious park, about two miles north-west from Dunmow. From the large projecting windows, and other peculiarities of the building, it seems to have been erected about the latter end of the reign of Queen Elizabeth. Adjoining the east end is a neat Chapel, built by William, Lord Maynard, in the year 1621: the east window displays the principal events in the History of our Saviour, in six compartments of painted glass. The grounds are pleasant, and ornamented with canals, shrubberies, &c. The manor of LITTLE EASTON, in which this Lodge is situated, was granted, by Queen Elizabeth, to Henry Maynard, Esq. who was Secretary to Lord Burleigh, and afterwards (A. D. 1601) Sheriff of this county. His grandson, Sir William Maynard, Knt. was advanced to the peerage by Charles the First in the year 1627. In the village *Church* are various monumental records of this family: these are contained in a small Chapel, adjoining the chancel on the south side, and called *Bouchier's Chapel*, from its having been erected as a burial-place for the Bouchiers, Earls of Essex, who possessed the manor in the fifteenth century. Upon the monument erected to the memory of SIR HENRY MAYNARD, (the Sheriff, who was knighted

* Gough's Britannia, Vol. II. p. 54.

knighted by James the First,) and his Lady, are their effigies, lying incumbent: on the north side are the figures of their eight sons and two daughters; the death of two of the former are recorded by the following quaint lines:

Rare was the roote, the branches bravely spred,
And some still are, though some be withered;
Two of the precious ones, a pitious spoile,
Were erst transplanted to a foreine soile,
Where the hott sunne, howe'er it did befall
Drew up their juice, to perfume heav'n withall:
When will th' heav'n such flow'rs to the earth repay
As th' earth afforded heav'n, two in a day.

Among the other monuments is one of very elaborate workmanship, and finely sculptured, erected to commemorate WILLIAM, LORD MAYNARD, who died in 1698, his wife DOROTHY, daughter of Sir Robert Banastre, Knt. and other individuals of the family. Its height is upwards of twenty feet, and its width, twelve. Lord Maynard is represented by a full length statue standing on a pedestal, and surrounded by various medallions and busts of his relatives that are buried in the vault beneath. An ancient monument of grey marble, neatly ornamented, in this Chapel, marks the place of interment of HENRY BOURCHIER, first Earl of Essex of that name, and ISABEL PLANTAGENET, his Countess.*

In the parish of TAKELEY, on the manor called *Warish Hall*, was a small PRIORY, founded in the reign of Henry the First, as a cell to the Abbey of St. Valery, in Picardy, to which this manor is supposed to have been given by William the Conqueror. The Priory has been long demolished; its possessions are said to have been obtained of Edward the Third, by William of Wickham, who bestowed them on his own foundation, the New College, at Oxford, to which they yet belong.

At THREMHALL, in the parish of Stansted Montfichet, was a PRIORY of Benedictine Canons, dedicated to St. James, founded by Gilbert de Montfichet, who came into England with the Conqueror.

* This monument has been engraved, and published, by the Society of Antiquaries.

queror. Its chief endowments were derived from that family, and from the De Veres, Earls of Oxford, who afterwards obtained the patronage: several individuals of these families are said to have been buried here. At the period of the Dissolution, its possessions, according to Speed, were valued at 70l. 19s. 3d. annually.

BASSINGBOURNE HALL, a large and handsome modern building, derives its name from the ancient family of Bassingbourne, some of whom were settled here as early as the time of Henry the Third. From them the estate passed through various families to Francis Bernard, Esq. who purchased it in the year 1745, under a decision of the Court of Chancery. This gentleman erected the present mansion, which stands on an eminence, and commands a fine view of the adjacent country: the front is very elegant. It is now the residence of Sir Peter Parker.

STANSTED MONTFICHET is one of the largest parishes in Essex, its circumference being computed at nearly forty miles. Its name, *Stansted*, or *Stone-Street*, was probably derived from a Vicinal Way, which branched off from the Roman road from Bishop-Stortford to Colchester, and runs through it in the direction of Stansted-Street, towards Great Chesterford: the appellation, *Montfichet*, appears to have been given it in contra-distinction to Stansted in Hertfordshire, and probably arose from a large artificial mount of earth, still remaining, on which stood the keep of a Castle, erected here by William Gernon, surnamed Montfichet, who inherited the Lordship from his father Robert, to whom it had been given, with several others in this county, by the Conqueror. After the erection of the Castle, it became the head of the Barony of Montfichet; and some remains of the fortress are yet visible about a quarter of a mile from the Church.

STANSTED HALL, the seat of ——— Heath, Esq. is a large brick mansion, standing on the summit of a hill, and commanding a fine prospect to the north. The gardens are pleasantly laid out; and the grounds contain several plantations and nurseries.

HALLINGBURY PLACE is a spacious edifice, situated on an eminence in an extensive park, and now the seat of J. Houblon, Esq. The grounds have been greatly improved, and the

whole rendered a very desirable and pleasant residence. This manor was purchased by the *Houblons* in the year 1727, under an act of Parliament, which vested the manors of Great Hallingbury, Wallbury, and Monkbury, in trustees for the discharge of the debts of Sir Edward Turner, who previously possessed them.

GREAT HALLINGBURY, anciently called *Hallingbury Morley*, from the Lords of that name, its former possessors, passed by marriage through the families of the *Lovels* and *Parkers*; one of the latter of whom bore the title of Lord Montegle in right of his mother, and was the person to whom was sent the mysterious letter recorded as having been the occasion of the discovery of the Powder-plot. From this family it was obtained by Sir Edward Turner, Knt. afterwards Speaker of the House of Commons, and Lord Chief Baron of the Exchequer; after the decease of whose son, it was purchased by the *Houblons*, as above mentioned. Several of the Lords Morley and Montegle lie buried in the Church.

WALLBURY, which gives name to a manor in Great Hallingbury parish, "and was anciently termed *Walla*, is an irregular oval *Camp* on a steep hill, inclosing about thirty acres, with a bold double bank, and on the north some additional work on the brow of the hill. A road enters it on the east side, but does not appear to have been continued to the west, where the river Stort, at the distance of two or three meads, defends it. Here is, however, a gap in the inner vallum, and the ditch is filled up on this side, but the outer bank is very steep: another road crosses it from north to south. Just within the west bank stands a farmhouse of the same name; the south part of which, particularly the cellar, is built of rough work, strongly cemented together, with some pointed arches. The area was a rabbit warren, till ploughed up about sixty years ago, but is now divided into several fields."* The area contains about thirty acres, according to Dr. Salmon, who imagined it to be the *Alauna* of Ravennas; not reflecting, observes Mr. Gough, that that writer was describing the south-west

* Gough's Camden, Vol. II. p. 63.

west coast of Britain, and that all his stations answer to places in Devon and Dorset.*

HATFIELD-REGIS, or HATFIELD BROAD-OAK, was formerly a considerable market-town, but is now only a scattered village with very little trade. It was anciently part of the King's demesne, whence it derived the name of *Regis*; as it did that of *Broad-Oak*, or *Brad-Oak*, from an oak of extraordinary size, supposed to have flourished here in the Saxon times. In the Church, carved in wood, is the mutilated effigies of ROBERT DE VERE, third Earl of Oxford, who was buried here in the year 1221. Near the east end of the Church, on a spot now converted into gardens, stood a Benedictine PRIORY, founded about the year 1135, by Aubrey de Vere, father of the first Earl of Oxford. It was dedicated to St. Mary, and St. Melanius Redonensis, a British or Armorican Saint, to whose glory a flourishing Abbey was erected at Rennes, in Bretagne. To that Abbey the Priory at Hatfield was originally a cell; but is supposed to have been rendered independant by Aubrey de Vere, the third of that name, or his son Robert, whose effigies has just been mentioned. Its possessions were greatly increased by different benefactors; and, on the Suppression, were valued at 1221. 13s. 2d. annually. Aubrey de Vere, the founder, "enfeoffed the Convent, with all his tithes in the parish, by a grant, to which was affixed by a harp-string, a short black-hafted knife, instead of a seal."† Henry the Eighth granted the site and revenues of the Priory to Thomas Noke, to whom they were confirmed by Queen Mary. His son, Robert, sold them, in the year 1564, to Thomas Barrington, Esq. whose family were settled at *Barrington Hall*,‡ in this parish, about one mile and a half north from the Church, as early as the reign of Henry the First. From this mansion, great part of which has been pulled down, and the remainder converted into a farm-house, the

* Gough's Camden, Vol. II. p. 63.

† Ibid, p. 54.

‡ The Barentons had the custody of Hatfield Forest as early as the time of King Ethelred, father of Edward the Confessor. *Morant's Essex*, Vol. II. p. 503.

the Barringtons removed to the *Priory*, and resided there till about the beginning of the last century, when it was taken down, through the misapprehension of a workman, whom Sir Charles Barrington had consulted about repairing it: this Sir Charles represented the county in seven Parliaments. Dying without issue, he bequeathed this estate to his sister, Anne, then married to Charles Shales, Esq. and her children. John Barrington Shales, Esq. her second son, who succeeded his brother, Riche, erected the present BARRINGTON HALL, at a little distance north from the site of the Priory. This is a spacious brick mansion: the *Long-Room* on the ground floor measures 100 feet in length, and twenty in breadth; the ceiling is ornamented with stucco work, and supported on large columns.

GREAT CANFIELD, or *Canfield ad Castrum*, as it is sometimes called, obtained its latter appellation from a Castle belonging to the De Veres, Earls of Oxford, by one of whom it is generally supposed to have been built: the mount, or keep, still remains, and is planted with trees; the area in which it stands is surrounded by a deep moat, encompassing about two acres. This place, from the similitude of the name, and from its situation being at no great distance from the little river Can, has been thought the ancient *Canonium*; but apparently on insufficient grounds.

In the parish of LITTLE LEES, and nearly adjoining Felsted, was a PRIORY of Augustine Canons, founded about the year 1229, by Sir Ralph Gernon, and dedicated to the Virgin and St. John the Evangelist. Its revenues, at the period of the Dissolution, were valued at 114l. 1s. 4d. annually. The site of the Priory, with other manors, were granted, by Henry the Eighth, to Sir Richard Rich, an eminent Lawyer, whose talents rendered him a very useful assistant in the scheme of suppressing the religious houses. In the reign of Edward the Sixth, he was promoted to the Chancellorship, and also created Baron of Lees; but on the downfall of the Duke of Somerset, he was obliged to resign the Seals. He afterwards retired to his seat at *Lees Priory*, the buildings of which he had enlarged, and formed into a magnificent dwelling.

dwelling. In its most perfect state this mansion consisted of two quadrangles of brick, surrounding an outer and inner court, and encompassed by a park of 400 acres. Two other parks, of nearly equal extent, were also connected with it, by Sir Richard; and other improvements were made by his successors. These successive additions so greatly increased its splendour, that, on the death of Charles Rich, Earl of Warwick, in 1673, Dr. Walker, in his funeral sermon, scrupled not to sound its eulogium, by calling it, "a secular Elysium; a worldly Paradise; a Heaven upon earth." In this building, the Princess Elizabeth was confined during some part of the reign of her sister Mary. The estate now belongs to Guy's Hospital, by the direction of the governors of which great part of the building has been destroyed; but two sides of one of the quadrangles, and a fine tower gateway, yet remains. The latter has an octagonal tower at each corner, with embattled turrets. The other parts that are now standing are occupied by a respectable farmer. Near the house are some of the large fishponds that belonged to the Priory.

PLESHY, though now only an obscure village, was formerly a place of considerable importance, it having been the seat of the High Constables of England, from the earliest institution of that office, till nearly four centuries after the Conquest. Mr. Gough conceives it to have been the site of a Roman station,* but has not ventured to assign it a Roman name. Morant, who bestowed very little attention on this subject, has yet referred it to the Roman times; supporting his opinion by a reference to an *Entrenchment* which surrounds the village, and within the area of which a strong *Castle* was erected, in the Norman age, the keep of which still exhibits a proud specimen of ancient grandeur.

———"No massy door

Grates on harsh hinges o'er the ruin'd floor;
No pointed arch, with dread portcullis hung,
Bids horror stalk the timid hinds among;
No deep dark dungeon strikes their souls with fear,
Nor swelling tow'rs their threat'ning turrets rear.

T^o

* History and Antiquities of Pleshy, p. 2.

—Yet still remains, and marks the ancient bound,
 The bold abutment of the outer mound;
 Still with a slow and pausing step we tread
 High o'er the lofty arch, and hence are led
 To mount the keep, whose hard access of yore
 A moat defended, but defends no more;
 For where of old did guardian waters flow,
 Now spreading ash and humbler elders grow.”*

“The entrenchment begins to the west of the Church, which stands just without it, and falls into the fosse of the keep on the west side. The vallum, with a noble fosse, is very perfect in parts of the north, east, and west sides; and the four roads which lead into the camp, are easy to be traced. That which enters the west side, running by the Church, may be followed by piece-meal almost to Chelmsford, to the west of the Waltham road. By its side have been found many human bones; a bit, of iron; a stone coffin; a glass urn, with bones in it; and some tesserae of pavements. The circumference of the vallum is within a few yards of a Roman mile.”† Several urns, and other antiquities, have been found within the distance of a mile from the entrenchment; and some Roman bricks are built up in the tower of the Church.

These remains seem sufficient to evince the Roman origin of PLESHEY CASTLE: the keep, and moat that surrounds it, must, however, be referred to the Normans; and with most probability to William de Magnaville, second son of Geoffrey de Magnaville; to the latter of whom Pleshey had been granted by the usurper Stephen, who had obtained it through his marriage with Maud, grand-daughter of Eustace, Earl of Boulogne. This William procured licence from Henry the Second to fortify his Castle at Pleshey; and here he solemnized his marriage with Hawise, daughter and heiress of William le Gros, Earl of Albemarle, 1180.‡ The earth-works,” observes Mr. Gough, “may defy the injuries of

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time

* History and Antiquities of Pleshey, Introduction, p. xvi.

† Antiquities of Pleshey, p. 3.

‡ Ibid. 6. Milles Catalogue of Honour, p. 843.

time and cultivation; but of the buildings that once adorned them, remains only the bridge leading across the moat to the keep. This bridge is of brick, of one pointed arch, strongly cramped together with iron, eighteen feet high, and eighteen wide, and remarkable for the singular circumstance of contracting as it approaches the foundations. Foundations of brick run from the end of this bridge to the left round the keep; and on each side of the way to it are foundations of large rooms, and angles of stone buildings. The site of the Castle has been a warren; and four ragged yews occupy the keep, in planting which some foundations were laid open." The form of the keep is nearly oval: its breadth at top is about forty-five paces; its width twenty-five; its circumference is upwards of 890 feet.

Humphrey de Bohun, grandson of Humphrey, surnamed the good Earl of Hereford, who had succeeded to the estates of the Magnavilles, obtained leave of Edward the First, to enlarge his park at Pleshy, by inclosing 150 additional acres. His descendants continued owners till the death of Humphrey, the last male heir, in 1372, when THOMAS OF WOODSTOCK, afterwards Duke of Gloucester, sixth son of Edward the First, became possessed of Pleshy, and other immense estates, in right of his wife Eleanor, eldest daughter and co-heiress of Humphrey: in her right, also, he became High Constable of England.

The busy life and tragical fate of this nobleman, occupy no inconsiderable portion of the annals of Richard the Second; and though the turbulence of the age, and the degrading system of favoritism pursued in the court of that weak Monarch, necessarily connected him with the violences practised in the early part of his sovereignty, there is no evidence of his having acted wantonly cruel, or of having supported his own administration by unmerited severity. His character appears to have been that of the blunt Englishman: too haughty to submit his judgment to the trammels of courtly sycophancy, and too honest to tarnish his principles by unconditional submission to kingly despotism. The favorites of Richard knew that his destruction could not be effected by open violence, so much was the popular voice in his behalf; they had

therefore recourse to private assassination; and the King was so ready to forward their schemes of vengeance, that he descended even to the base treachery of arresting the Duke himself, under pretence that he wished to consult him about business in the city of London.

When this arrest was contrived, the Duke was at his Castle at Pleshy, with scarcely any more company than his own family, and immediate retainers. The manner in which it was executed is thus related by Froissart: "The King set out one afternoon from Havering at Bower, (whither he had come under pretence of recreation and hunting, having left part of his attendants at Eltham with the Queen,) and came to Plaisy about five o'clock. It was fine warm weather; and when they entered the Castle of Plaisy, they were surprised to hear, 'Here comes the King!' The Duke of Gloucester had just supped, for he was very temperate, and sat but a little while at table, whether at dinner or supper. He came out to meet the King in the court of the Castle, and paid his respects to him as to his Sovereign, for he was a nobleman of great politeness. The Duchess, and her children, who were there, did the same. The King went into the hall, and then into the apartment: a table was presently spread for him; and, after a short supper, he said to the Duke, 'Good uncle, order five or six of your horses to be saddled: you must go with me to London; for to-morrow I am to meet the Londoners, and we shall find there my uncles of York and Lancaster, without fail: I mean to take your advice on a petition they are to present to me: and order your steward to follow with your people to London, where they will find you!' The Duke suspecting no harm, obeyed him forthwith. The King presently finished his supper, and rose up. Every body was ready. The King took leave of the Duchess, and her children, and mounted his horse: the Duke did the same, and set out from Plaisy, attended by only seven of his people; three esquires, and four servants. They rode hard; for the King was in haste to get to London, and all the way talked with his uncle of Gloucester, till they came to *Stadforte* (Stratford) and the river Thames. When the King came to the place

where the ambush lay, he rode on before, and left his uncle; and then suddenly came up the Earl Marshal (Thomas Mowbray) behind him, with a great troop of men and horses, and sprung on the Duke of Gloucester, saying, 'I arrest you by the King's orders.' The Duke was thunderstruck, and saw he was betrayed, and began to call aloud to the King. Whether the King heard him, I know not; but he did not turn back, but rode on fast, and his people followed him."*

The particulars of this arrest, as related by Walsingham, Fabian, and other historians, are somewhat diversely told; but the King's treachery is manifested by most of them. After being decoyed from Pleshy, the Duke was hurried to the Thames, where he was put on shipboard, and conveyed to Calais. Here, after a few days imprisonment, he was smothered by ruffians, engaged for the purpose among the servants of his enemies. Not daring to make the manner of his death public, the King's minions reported that he had died of an apoplexy. His body was brought to England, and conveyed with little pomp "to the Castle of Plaisy, where it was laid in the Church which the said Duke had built and founded in honor of the Holy Trinity."† His remains were afterwards removed by his Duchess, and finally interred on the south side of the shrine of Edward the Confessor, in Westminster Abbey. Whatever degree of mystery had been thrown upon the manner of the Duke's death, during the remainder of Richard the Second's reign, it was wholly dissipated by the Inquisition made by command of the first Parliament that assembled after the accession of Henry the Fourth. It was then found "that he had been fraudulently and wickedly smothered by the King's orders at Calais;" and two or three of the assassins were afterwards executed.‡ The Duke was put to death in September, 1397.

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* Antiquities of Pleshy, p. 76.

† Froissart.

‡ "Among the persons more remotely concerned in the Duke of Gloucester's death, it is remarkable that John Holland, Duke of Exeter, half-brother to Richard the Second, met his punishment in the next reign at Pleshy. He had engaged

The possessions of the Duke, which, on his murder, had been seized by the Crown, appear to have been restored to his widow, Eleanor; and Pleshy, with other estates, was, after her decease, held by Edmund, Earl of Stafford, in right of his wife Anne, the Duke's daughter; but, on a partition of the estates of Humphrey de Bohun, between this lady and Henry the Fifth, her first cousin, the Castle, Park, and Manor of Pleshy fell to the Crown, and from that time became parcel of the Duchy of Lancaster. Edward the Sixth granted the Manor, with the Great and Little Parks of Pleshy, to Sir John Gates, Knight, to whom also the College, &c. founded by the Duke of Gloucester, had been previously given by Henry the Eighth. On his attainder and death, for conspiring to raise the Lady Jane Grey to the throne, they again fell to the Crown. The Great Park was soon afterwards obtained by Robert, Lord Rich, and became incorporated with the demesnes of Waltham-bury, among which it passed to the late Lord Waltham. The Little Park, and the *Mount*, were purchased by Sir Robert Clarke, constituted one of the Barons of the Exchequer in the reign of Elizabeth, from whom they have passed, by descent and purchase, to John Jolliffe Tuffnell, Esq. the present owner.*

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engaged with his brother, the Earl of Kent, and other Lords, in a conspiracy against Henry the Fourth: while the rest were caballing at Windsor, he staid at London, and, upon failure of their design, attempted to make his escape in a boat; but finding the wind contrary, he took horse, and, with one Sir John Schevele, made the best of his way to the coast of Essex, in order to get abroad. After several unsuccessful attempts to put to sea, the wind being against him, he retired to a friend's house: while at supper there, the county rose upon him, and seizing him, brought him first to Chelmsford, and then to Pleshy Castle, as the safer place. The populace flocking thither in great numbers, he was, on the evening of St. Maurice's day (1400) brought out, and beheaded on the spot where their Lord, the Duke of Gloucester, had been arrested by King Richard. He confessed, with tears, that he had sinned grievously against God and the King, in not disclosing the conspiracy to which he was privy."

Antiquities of Pleshy, p. 154.

* *Antiquities of Pleshy, p. 156-159.*

The COLLEGE, already mentioned to have been founded here, (1593,) by Thomas of Woodstock, stood on the south side of the Church, and was endowed for a Master, a Warden, eight Chaplains, two Clerks, and two Choristers. The original endowments were greatly augmented by subsequent benefactions; and on the Suppression, its revenues were valued at 143l. 12s. 7½d.* annually. Not any part of the buildings now remain; and even the site is hardly to be distinguished, it having been long ploughed up, though it still bears the name of the College Field. The *College Church* was built in the Cathedral form, with a tower in the middle, and several illustrious persons were interred in it. The greatest part was, however, demolished by Sir John Gates; and when Bishop Compton was promoted to the See of London at the beginning of the last century, scarcely any more than the tower was remaining: to this the Bishop added a neat body of brick, which, together with a chancel, since built, now constitutes the Parish Church: some of the old arches of the transept remain, but are bricked up. Against the south wall of the chancel is a handsome monument to the memory of SIR WILLIAM JOLLIFFE, Knt. who died in 1749: and against the north wall is another, in commemoration of SAMUEL TUFFNELL, Esq. his nephew, to whom, and to his eldest son, he bequeathed his possessions. Some memorial of the former consequence of Pleshy, may perhaps be found in the election of a Mayor, who is chosen annually on the court-day held for the manor, out of the freeholders of the village.

LANGLEYS, the seat of John Jolliffe Tuffnell, Esq. a manor in the parish of Great Waltham, was formerly called *Marshalls*, from an ancient family of that name, which resided here from the time of King John, till the reign of Edward the Third, when it passed to the Langleys, from whom the present owner is descended. The mansion was built by the late Samuel Tuffnell, Esq. It is a handsome building, standing on a pleasant eminence, bounded by the river Chelmer on the north, and by a small rivulet on the south. The park and grounds are judiciously laid out.

The

* Tanner. Sancroft's MS. Valor.

The RODINGS are eight contiguous parishes, distinguished by the various prefixes of *High, Aythorpe, White, Leaden, Margaret, Berners, Abbess, and Beauchamp*; all which names have been given them since the compilation of the Domesday Book, at which period they were known by the general appellation of *Rodings* only: *Morrels Roding*, formerly a distinct parish, has long been a hamlet to that of White Roding. This district, which appears to have obtained its name from the river Roding, which runs through it, is very fruitful, but proverbially distinguished for the badness of its roads, and the uncouth manners of the inhabitants: in both these respects, however, it is much improved; and with regard to the cultivation of the land, is not inferior to most places in Essex.

The *Churches* of WILLINGEHALL-DOU, and WILLINGEHALL SPAIN, are both situated in the same church-yard; but do not display any thing peculiarly remarkable. WARDENS HALL, in the former parish, is a spacious brick edifice, now the seat of William Mills, Esq. whose father obtained it in marriage with Selina, daughter of Sir John Salter, Knt. and Lord Mayor of London in 1740, by whom it was built. The grounds are singularly disposed, and furnished with various fish-ponds.

At FYFIELD a great number of *Celts* were found in the year 1749; together with a large quantity of metal for casting them: and in a field called STOCKLING, between Fyfield and Ongar, a coffin of hewn stone, with others of tiles, many skeletons, and various fragments of urns, were discovered in 1767.*

ONGAR, OR CHIPPING ONGAR,

Is an ancient market town, chiefly consisting of one long and wide street, situated within the area of an extensive *Entrenchment*,† which may yet be traced on its different sides. On the east are

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* Gough's Camden, Vol. II. p. 51. Sepulchral Monuments, Vol. I. Introduction, p. xxiv.

† Gough's Camden, Vol. II. p. 51, figure 5, plate 1. p. 41.

the keep and other remains of a strong *Castle*, erected by Richard de Lucy, Chief Justice of England in the reign of Henry the Second, to whom this Lordship was given, by William, Earl of Mortain and Surry, and son to King Stephen, and by whose interest it was created into an Honor. Mr. Gough supposes the Castle to have been formed out of a more ancient and extensive work, of either Roman or Saxon origin. The keep is surrounded by a deep and wide moat, commonly filled with water, and is also defended by immense fosses. Its sides are now planted with trees and shrubs; through which a steep winding walk leads to the summit, whereon stood the principal buildings: these becoming ruinous, were pulled down in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, by the then owner, William Morrice, Esq. who erected in their place a handsome mansion, which, from its height and lofty situation, commanded some fine views over the surrounding country. This building was demolished about the year 1744, by Edward Alexander, Esq. who had purchased the estate, and who had an embattled summer-house erected on the site of the former dwelling. The descendants of this gentleman are still owners of the Castle and manor.

The market is not much frequented; though, from the term *Cheping* being affixed to the name of the town, it is probably of remote origin. The *Church* is a small neat structure, and has "many Roman bricks worked into it:"* the windows are singularly small, more resembling castellated loop-holes than church windows. Within it is an inscription, recording the family and interment of JANE, daughter of the Lord Oliver Cromwell, of Finchinbrook, in Huntingdonshire, and wife of Tobias Pallavicine, Esq. Foundations of Roman buildings are said to have been dug up in the Church-Yard;† and, as a collateral proof of the antiquity of the town, the principal road from London to Colchester is recorded to have led hither by Old Ford. The population of Chipping Ongar, as returned under the late act, was 595; the number of houses 111.

GREENSTED,

* Gough's Camden, Vol. II. p. 51.

† History of Essex, Vol. III. p. 317, edit 1770.

GREENSTED, called also *Greensted near Ongar*, to distinguish it from another Greensted adjacent to Colchester, has become much celebrated from its *Church*, which is considered by some of the best informed antiquaries,* as one of the most singular and ancient in Great Britain; as far, at least, as regards the body or nave. This is entirely composed of wood; the sides being formed of the trunks of large chesnut trees,† split or sawn asunder. These are set upright, close to each other, and let into a sill and plate; at the top they are fastened with wooden pins. “On the south side are sixteen, and two door posts; on the north, twenty-one, and two vacancies filled up with plaster. The west end is built against by a boarded tower, and the east by a chancel of brick; on the south side is a wooden porch; and both sides are strengthened by brick buttresses: the roof is of later date, and tiled;‡” but rises to a point in the centre, as originally formed. The entire length of the original part is twenty-nine feet, nine inches; the width, fourteen feet; and the height, to the spring of the roof, five feet, six inches.

In the account of this Church, communicated to the Society of Antiquaries by Smart Lethieullier, Esq. and annexed to a view of it, published many years ago, it is said, that the inhabitants have a tradition, that the corpse of a King once rested in it. This tradition Mr. L. imagined to have been founded on particulars recorded by some of our old writers, and instances the following. In a manuscript preserved in the Lambeth Library, intituled, *Vita et Passio Sancti Edmundi*, are passages to this effect: “In the year 1010, and the thirtieth of King Ethelred, St. Edmund, by reason of the invasion of Turkil, the Danish chief, was taken, by Bishop Ailwin, to London; but in the third year following, carried back to St. Edmund’s Bury: a certain person at Stapleford hospitably received his body on its return.” Another MS.
cited

* Ducarel, Lethieullier, Gough.

† History of Essex, Vol. III. p. 383, edit. 1770.

‡ Gough’s Camden, Vol. II. p. 51.

cited in the Monasticon, and intituled, *Registrum cœnobii Sancti Edmundi*, has this sentence: *Idem apud AUNGRE hospitabatur ubi in ejus memoria lignea capella permanet usque hodie*; i. e. ‘His body was likewise entertained at *Aungre*, where a *wooden Chapel*, erected to his memory, remains to this day.’

In the Application of these extracts, Mr. L. observes, that, “the parish of *Aungre*, or *Ongar*, adjoins to that of *Greensted*, where this Church is situated; and that the ancient road from London into Suffolk, lay through Old-ford, Abridge, Stapleford, *Greensted*, Dunmow, and Clare, we learn not only from tradition, but likewise from several remains of it, which are still visible. It seems not improbable, therefore, that this rough and unpolished fabric was first erected as a sort of shrine for the reception of the corpse of St. Edmund, which, in its return from London to Bury, as *Lydgate* says, in his MS. Life of King Edmund, was carried in a chest: and, as we are told, in the Register above mentioned, that it remained afterwards in memory of that removal, so it might, in process of time, with proper additions made to it, be converted into a Parish Church; for we find by *Newcourt*, that *Simon Feverell* succeeded *John Lodet* as rector of *Greensted juxta Ongar*, in 1328. He says likewise, that *Richard de Lucy* very probably divided the parishes of *Grinsted* and *Aungre*, and built the Church at *Aungre*, in the reign of Henry the Second.”

GREENSTED HALL, the seat and property of *Craven Ord*, Esq. one of the Masters in Chancery, is a neat modern building, situated near the Church. This estate was formerly included in the Honour of Gloucester.

OTES, in the parish of *High Laver*, was formerly the seat of the *Mashams*, of an ancient family, originally settled near *Masham*, in Yorkshire, but who removed hither in the reign of James the First: on the death of *Samuel*, the last Lord *Masham*, this estate was sold to the *Palmers*. In the Church-Yard are several monuments of the *Masham* family; and also a plain marble tomb to the memory of the great Philosopher, JOHN LOCKE, who was the guest of the *Mashams* during several years previous

to

to his decease. The epitaph, written by himself in Latin, has been thus translated :

Stop, Traveller!
 Near this Place lieth JOHN LOCKE.
 If you ask what Kind of Man he was,
 He answers, that he lived content
 With his own Fortune.
 Bred a Scholar, he made his Learning
 Subservient only to the Cause of Truth.
 This thou wilt learn from his Writings,
 Which will show thee every Thing else
 Concerning him,
 With greater Truth than the suspected Phrases
 Of an Epitaph.
 His Virtues, indeed, if he had any,
 Were too little for him to propose
 As Matter of Praise to himself,
 Or as an Example to thee ;
 Let his Vices be buried together.
 As to an Example of *Manners*, if you seek that,
 You have it in the GOSPEL :
 Of *Vices*, I wish you to have one no where.
 Of *Mortality*, certainly, and may it profit thee,
 You have one here, and every where.
 This Stone,
 Which will itself perish in a short Time,
 Records,
 That he was born Aug. 29, 1632 ;
 That he died
 Oct. 28, 1704.

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HARLOW, a disused market town, was formerly a place of considerable trade, and had a large woollen manufacture, but this has long been removed, and the inhabitants are now chiefly supported by spinning, and agricultural employments. Some advantages are, however, derived from *Harlow-bush Fair*, which is held annually, for the sale of horses, cattle, &c. on a common, about two miles from the town, and much frequented. The *Church*, dedicated to the Virgin, and All Saints, was partly demolished by fire, at the beginning of the last century, but was
 soon

soon afterwards restored, and ornamented with much painted glass, chiefly at the expence of the Rev. Mr. Taylor, then vicar, and the neighbouring gentry. The original structure was in the cathedral form; but the tower, which rose from the centre, has been replaced by a cupola.

In the parish of LATTON, about three miles south from the Church, was a PRIORY for Augustine Canons, dedicated to St. John Baptist. The time of its foundation is unknown; but it was certainly built before 1270, as it is mentioned in the Lincoln taxation for that year. The Priory Church consisted of a nave and transept, in the pointed style; the remains are now used as a barn. The value of its possessions are not recorded: Henry the Eighth granted them to Sir Henry Parker.

NETHER HALL, in the parish of Roydon, near the confluence of the rivers Lea and Stort, was formerly the seat of the *Colt* family, which appears to have been settled here as early as the reign of Edward the Fourth. The ancient mansion, which had been converted into a farm-house, was demolished about the year 1773; the *gateway* only being left standing, through the strength of the work, which rendered its destruction too expensive. This remain is of brick, and consists of two floors, with an half hexagon tower on each side the entrance: the upper part of one of the towers has lately fallen, and the space between them is in a very ruinous condition. Each floor is occupied by only one room, measuring about twenty-seven feet by twenty-three and a half, and lighted by large windows: the ceiling of the upper story has fallen in. The ceiling of the first story is sustained on wainscot arches, resting in front on three blank shields, and a truss composed of a radiant rose; and at the back on four trusses; the first and third of which represent griffins; the second and fourth, a bear and ragged staff: the most western of the shields is supported by two horses; the second is held by a spread-eagle, supported by a lion and unicorn; and the third rests on a lioness and bull ducally crowned. Near the chimney is a colt's head, in an ornament of the carving. This story has been wainscotted to about the height of eight feet: above the wainscot, on the plaster, are various

various figures in compartments, wretchedly painted, and purporting to represent the most eminent personages of Sacred, Profane, and Fabulous History. On the summit of the gateway are some remains of two curiously twisted chimnies; and beneath the windows, above the entrance, is a machicolation, and a trefoil ornament, with shields and fleurs des lis. The whole building was surrounded by a moat; and the moat itself encompassed by a wall. Several of the *Colts*, who are supposed to have erected this mansion, are buried in the Church at Roydon. Thomas Colt, Esq. was employed on some foreign embassy by Edward the Fourth.

EPPING

Is an irregular town, to the north of Epping Forest, consisting of two parts; one round the Church, called *Epping-Upland*; the other, nearly a mile and a half south-east from the Church, called EPPING STREET. The latter is by far the largest, and consists of one wide street, nearly a mile in length, situated on the high road to Newmarket, &c. on a ridge of hills, that extends to a considerable distance north and south. Here the market is held: the chief commodities exposed for sale, are butter and poultry, which are mostly purchased for the use of the Metropolis. At the west end of the street is a small new *Chapel*; and near the middle are the *Shambles*: the latter are partly decayed, and have a very mean appearance. The inns and public-houses are numerous. The number of houses in both divisions, as returned under the late act, was 315; that of inhabitants 1726. This manor was part of the endowment bestowed on Waltham Abbey by Earl Harold.

EPPING FOREST is an extensive tract of good woodland, deriving its present name from the town of Epping, but formerly called Waltham Forest, and in more remote ages, the Forest of Essex. Since it was known by the latter appellation, it has, however, been greatly curtailed, many thousand acres having been grubbed up, and the land cultivated. This Forest is under the jurisdiction of a Lord Warden and four Verderers: the former title is hereditary in the family of Sir James Tilney Long, Bart.

The Verderers are elected by the freeholders of the county, and retain their offices during life. The forest rights are as various as the tenures of the different manors that surround it. In this forest, though within twelve miles of London, wild stags are yet found; and a stag is annually turned out on Easter Monday, under an establishment patronized by the principal merchants of the City. The stag-hunt is well supported: the kennel for the hounds, and the building belonging to the hunt, have been lately rebuilt at an expence of several thousand pounds.

COPPED HALL, the seat of John Conyers, Esq. is justly ranked among the greatest ornaments of this county. Its grounds are boldly irregular; and have been highly improved by numerous groves and plantations, which crown the eminences, and sweep over the sides of the hills. Grand and very extensive distances are also presented from different stations; and it may be truly said, that Nature has liberally decorated the demesne with many beautiful and picturesque features. The House, a neat white brick* building, stands on a knoll, near the centre of a large park, which, with the contiguous lands included in this estate, compose an area of 4000 acres. Above 400 acres of this land was, about thirty years ago, an unprofitable waste, covered with hornbeam, pollards, brush-wood, &c. and infested with gangs of wood and deer-stealers, whose race had haunted the close covers of Epping Forest for centuries, and was in the constant practice of committing depredations. The praise-worthy reformation of many of these outcasts has been effected by a laudable plan of the present proprietor of Copped Hall, who, after suffering greatly from their dissolute manners, enticed them to live in small cottages which he had built on purpose, at a distance from each other, and appropriated to each a proper quantity of garden ground. He also provided them with labour, and agreed to supply them with firewood. By this judicious scheme, the idle have been inured to habits of industry, and a large tract of waste land rendered subservient

* The brick-work of this house is much admired for the closeness and neatness of its jointing, and for the squareness and symmetry of the bricks: the latter were all cast in iron moulds.

servient to public utility. Among the other improvements that have been made, may be ranked the cultivation of a piece of ground, called the Warren. About sixty years ago, this tract, consisting of 101 acres, was offered to a speculating farmer, on a lease of forty years, at 2s. 6d. per acre. These terms, however, he refused, supposing the land totally unproductive. The ground was then ploughed, and sown with the seeds of almost every kind of tree, indiscriminately thrown in, and left to the operations of nature. The young plants sprung up; and though no particular attention was paid to them, have thriven with so much vigor, as to form one of the finest and most valuable woods in this part of the county. One tree, in particular, a *Cedar* of Libanum*, is entitled to distinct notice, from its rapid vegetation. The seed from which it was raised was sown in the year 1747. The medium girth of the bole is near twelve feet; and the branches extend upwards of eleven yards on each side. In the old building, called Copped Hall,† was the chapel, wherein the painted glass now at St. Margaret's, Westminster, was first put up after its removal from New Hall. The present mansion was erected between the years 1753 and 1757: but has since been greatly improved under the direction of Mr. James Wyatt.

Near Copped Hall Park, on the south-east side, are the traces of an ancient Camp, called AMBREYS, or AMBERSBURY BANKS, conjectured to have been of British origin. "This entrenchment is now entirely overgrown with old oaks and hornbeams. It was formerly in the very heart of the forest, and no road near it, till the present turnpike road from London to Epping was made, almost within the memory of man, which now runs within a hundred yards; but it cannot be perceived from thence by reason of
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* The wood of the Cedar is famous for preserving animal bodies from putrefaction: it is also reported to yield an oil, whose qualities render it an effectual preservative for books and manuscripts.

† This was a large quadrangle, surrounding a court, and including a gallery fifty-six yards long, erected by Sir Thomas Henneage, to whom the manor was granted by Queen Elizabeth. The gallery was destroyed by a hurricane in the year 1639.

the wood that covers it. Its figure is irregular, rather longest from east to west, and on a gentle declivity to the south-east. It contains nearly twelve acres, and is surrounded by a ditch, and high bank much worn down by time; though where there are angles, they are still very bold and high. There are no regular openings or entrances, only in two places, where the bank has been cut through, and the ditch filled up very lately, in order to make a strait road from Debden Green to Epping Market. The boundaries between the parishes of Waltham and Epping run exactly through the middle of this entrenchment.”*

WALTHAM, OR WALTHAM HOLY-CROSS,

Is a large, irregular town, situated on low ground near the river Lea, which here forms a number of small islands, and is skirted by fruitful meadows, that have long been famous for the succulent and nourishing qualities of the grass. This spot was originally part of the Forest of Essex, and deriving the appellation of *Waltham* from the Saxon words *Ham*, a place, or hamlet; and *Weald*, woody; the whole site being anciently overgrown with trees. The addition of *Holy Cross* arose from a certain miraculous cross to which the Abbey, founded here by Earl Harold, afterwards King, was dedicated.

The first mention of Waltham occurs in the time of Canute the Great, in whose reign the then owner, Tovy, or Tovius, Standard-bearer to that Monarch, attracted by the quantity of game that abounded in the Forest, founded here a Village and a Church; placing three-score and six dwellers in the former; and in the latter, two priests. After his decease, Athelstan, his son and heir, squandered his inheritance; and Waltham reverting to the Crown, was bestowed, by Edward the Confessor, on Earl Harold. The gift was, however, made conditionally, as appears from the grant now remaining in the Tower; that Harold should build a Monastery

* Gough's Camden, Vol. II. p. 49, from a MS. Letter, written by Mr. Lethieullier.

tery in the place, "where *was a little Convent*, subject to the Canons, and their rulers;" and should furnish it with all necessities, relics, dresses, and ornaments, "*in memoriam mei, et conjugis mee Eadithe.*" The Convent here mentioned, was the original foundation of Tovy, which he had himself augmented, by increasing both the number of priests, and value of the endowments.*

The same year, 1062, in which the grant was dated, Harold re-founded or enlarged the building erected by Tovy, and endowed it, as a COLLEGE, for a Dean, and eleven secular Canons, of the order of St. Augustine. A distinct manor was allotted for the maintenance of each Canon, and six for the support of the Dean, as appears from the charter of confirmation, granted by Edward the Confessor. The Church was at the same time enriched with a vast number of relics, and many costly vessels.† The possessions of the College were afterwards considerably augmented by various benefactions, and it continued to flourish till the reign of Henry the Second.

This Prince, in the year 1177, deputed Richard, Archbishop of Canterbury, who, in a late visitation, had suspended the Dean, and discovered many irregularities in this College, to accept the resignation of its inmates; and having procured a charter of licence from Pope Alexander, he soon afterwards changed the old foundation of seculars into an ABBEY of regular Canons, of the same order, augmenting the number to twenty-four, and proportionably increasing their revenues. The cause alleged in the charter for this change, is the dissolute lives of the Canons. "*Cum in ea canonici cleriq. minus religiosè & æqualiter vixissent, ita quòd infamia conversationis illorum multos scandalisasset;*" and because (to use the King's own words) it was fit that *Christ his spouse should have a new dowry*, he not only confirmed the primitive patrimony, with all since bestowed, but himself gave the rich manors of Sewardstone and Epping. Additions were probably made at this time, both to the Monastery and the Church,

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* Harleian Manuscript, No. 3776.

† Ibid.

and the whole was re-dedicated to the aforesaid Holy Cross, and St. Laurence. All the Canons on the old foundation were expelled from the new establishment, but otherwise sufficiently provided for.

The first Abbot was Walter de Gaunt, who was indulged by the Pope, in the year 1191, with the use of the pontificals, and exempted from episcopal jurisdiction; the latter privilege being, in fact, a confirmation of Henry's charter, which thus defines the ancient liberties of Waltham Church: *Semper fuit regalis capella ex primitiva sui fundatione, nulli archiepiscopo vel episcopo, sed tantum ecclesiæ Romanæ et Regiæ dispositioni subjecta*; and this privilege has descended in part to modern times, Waltham being still exempted from the Archdeacon's visitation.

Richard the First, by his charter dated at Winton, (Winchester,) in his first year, granted to these Canons his whole manor of Waltham, with the great wood and park called Harold's Park, 460 acres of essart lands, with various privileges, and other estates, liberties, &c. He also, by another charter, confirmed all the former grants, and made further gifts to the Monastery, among which was the stately mansion called Copped Hall, but appointed the latter to be held in fee, and hereditarily, of the Church of Waltham *Sancte Crucis*, by Robert Fitz-Aucher.

Henry the Third not only augmented the privileges of Waltham Abbey, but also bestowed on it many rich gifts; and from his time it became so distinguished by a series of royal and noble benefactors, as to rank with the most opulent in the kingdom. This Monarch, to avoid the expences of a Court, frequently made the Abbey his place of residence; and to provide, in some measure, for the increased consumption which his presence and retinue occasioned, he granted to the inhabitants of Waltham, the privilege of holding a market weekly, and a seven days fair annually: the fair is now only held on the third and fourteenth of May.

Henry's favors to the Monastery were not entirely disinterested; as appears from his requiring its occasional participation in his distresses, as well as bounty. In the year 1258, the Parliament having refused the King money, he procured from the Pope, a

messenger, named Mansuetus, to come to England, and ask a supply from the Abbies and Churches. The Abbot of Waltham was among the first applied to on this occasion; and, partly by threats, partly by intreaties, was induced to issue a security for 200 marks. A similar application was made at another time to the Abbots of Waltham, St. Alban's, and Reading, for the sum of 5000 marks, which the King had promised to the young Earl of Gloucester, as a marriage portion with his neice, the daughter of Guy, Earl of Angoulesme. But this was not successful; the three Abbots declaring, that they were unable to raise such a sum; nor could they justify so doing, even if they were.

In this reign, great disputes took place between the Monastery and the townsmen, respecting the right of the former to pasture cattle on the adjoining grounds; and several outrages were committed by the inhabitants. These were at first overlooked from prudential motives; but similar offences having been repeated during the absence of the Abbot, he resolved to seek redress. The towns-people, dreading the consequences of their rashness, solicited a *loveday*, or reconciliation, and engaged to make good all damages; but, while the Abbot and Convent were deliberating on the proposal, they hastened to the King, and laid the blame of all that had happened on the monks. This proceeding was the signal for direct hostility. The Abbot denounced sentence of excommunication; the people flew for redress to the Common law. At length the matter came to a hearing before the King's Judges, when the townsmen being proved the aggressors, were amerced in a fine of twenty marks; but, on their submission, the fine was remitted; and the Abbot, in the end, *assoyled* them from the excommunication.

This contention was no sooner over, than another commenced between the Abbot and the Lord of the neighbouring manor of Cheshunt, respecting some land in the occupation of the former, and which was claimed as parcel of the Cheshunt manor. The Abbot, after much litigation, was suffered to retain possession; but the affair was soon afterwards renewed, and continued a subject of dispute till the Dissolution. During these unpleasant

altercations, the monks were charged by their enemies with receiving much *affectionate* consolation from the holy sisters in the nunnery at Cheshunt.*

In the year 1242, we learn from Matthew Paris, that the conventual Church of Waltham was again solemnly dedicated, the King and many noble personages being present. This was probably in consequence of some additions that had been recently made to the original fabric, but of the extent of which we are at present unacquainted. The last event of importance recorded of Waltham Abbey, prior to the Dissolution, is the accidental meeting between Thomas Cranmer, afterwards Archbishop of Canterbury, and the prelates Fox and Gardiner, which ended so remarkably in the advancement of the former, and drew with it a train of consequences highly interesting to that age, as well as to succeeding times.

This Abbey having existed during the government of twenty-seven Abbots, exclusive of the Deans belonging to the first foundation, was dissolved in the year 1539: its annual revenues were then valued at 900l. 4s. 11d. according to Dugdale; or, as recorded by Speed, at 1079l. 12s. 1d. The last Abbot, Robert Fuller, may be reckoned among the literati belonging to this Monastery. From his History, written in 460 pages folio, the fair manuscript of which was in the possession of the Earl of Carlisle, Fuller, his namesake, afterwards curate of the same Church, professes faithfully to have compiled almost all the materials of his account of Waltham Abbey, as given at the end of his "Church History."

The site of the Abbey was granted, for thirty-one years, to Sir Anthony Denny, who dying about the second year of Edward the

* A sample of these tales may be seen in Fuller's Church History. This author relates, that Sir Henry Colt, of Nether Hall, who was a great favourite with Henry the Eighth for his merry conceits, went late one night to Waltham Abbey, where being informed, by his spies, that some of the monks were indulging in female converse at Cheshunt Nunnery, he determined to intercept their return. With this intent, he had a buck-stall pitched in the narrowest part of the meadow, or marsh, which they had to cross in their way home; and the monks getting into it in the dark, were inclosed by his servants. The next morning, Sir Henry presented them to the King, who heartily laughing, declared that, "he had often seen sweeter, but never fatter venison."

the Sixth, his widow bought the reversion in fee from that Monarch, for somewhat more than 3000*l*. Sir Edward Denny, grandchild to Sir Anthony, created Earl of Norwich by Charles the First, was the next possessor: from him it passed, by the marriage of his daughter, to the celebrated James Hay, Earl of Carlisle: it has since come into the possession of the family of Sir William Wake, Bart.

The *Abbey House* is said to have been a very extensive building, but has been wholly demolished many years. Another large mansion, erected in its place, was, in the year 1770, sold to James Barwick, Esq. who soon afterwards had it pulled down, and let the site, and surrounding grounds, to a gardener: within them is a tulip tree, much celebrated, and reported to be the largest in England.

A gateway into the Abbey-yard, a bridge which leads to it, some ruinous walls, an arched vault, and the Church, are the only vestiges of the ancient magnificence of Waltham Abbey. The former of these remains are of a much later style of architecture than the Church. Adjoining to the gateway is the Porter's Lodge, and a piece of ground called *Romeland*, as Peter-pence were termed *Romescot*: this name it is thought to have derived from its rents *being appropriated in former times to the use of the Holy See*. On this spot King Henry the Eighth is reported to have had a small house, to which, in his visits to Waltham, he frequently retired for his private pleasures.

The ABBEY CHURCH, which was built in the usual form of a cross, and consisted of a nave, transept, choir, ante-chapel, &c. was a very considerable structure, and covered an extensive plot of ground. Some idea may be formed of its extent from knowing the situation of Harold's tomb, which stood about 120 feet east from the termination of the present building, in what was then probably the east end of the choir, or rather some chapel beyond it. The intersection of the transept is still visible: above this rose the ancient tower, which contained a ring of five great tuneable bells, afterwards purchased by the parish, of the King's commissioners. Part of this tower falling through mere decay, the

remainder was blown up by underminers,* and the whole choir, the tower, transept, and the east chapel, were demolished, so that nothing was left standing but the west end, which has since been fitted up, and made parochial; and constitutes the present Church.

This venerable relic, though much disfigured and mutilated, contains several interesting and curious specimens of the ornamented columns, semicircular arches, and other characteristics of the Norman style of architecture. Its length, from the western entrance to the altar, is about ninety feet; and its breadth, including the side aisles, forty-eight. The body is divided from the latter by six arches on each side, supported by pillars: five of them are semicircular, and are decorated with rude zigzag ornaments; the sixth, or western arch, is pointed, and apparently of a later construction. The pillars are extremely massive; and two on each side, which correspond, have wavy and spiral indentations, similar to those of the nave and choir in Durham Cathedral. Above this lower range of arches rise two tier of smaller ones, formed and ornamented in the same manner. The upper row of these enlighten the roof; and at the bottom of the lower tier is the narrow passage usual in cathedral and conventual Churches, called *triforia*. The roof itself is of timber, modern, and but little ornamented; the side aisles are surmounted by galleries, which, with the pews in the nave, have been lately erected for the accommodation of the parishioners.†

At the west end is a heavy square tower, having the date 1558. It was repaired about six years ago; and a new window was then introduced. It is built with stone, is embattled, and rises to the height of eighty-six feet. The original charge of building, in 1558, independent of materials, was 33s. 4d. per foot, for the first fifty-three feet, and 40s. per foot, for the remainder; which expence

* “Anno 1556. *Imprimis*, For coles to undermine a piece of the steeple which stood after the first fall, 2s.”—Churchwardens’ Accounts.

† Select Views of London and its Environs, No. II.

pence was defrayed by the parishioners from their stock in the church-box.*

From the south side of the Church projects a Chapel, formerly Our Lady's, now a school-room, under which is a beautiful arched charnel-house, or crypt; "the fairest," says Fuller, "that ever I saw." This was once a place of worship, having its priest, &c. and adorned with its altar and reading-desk, the latter of which was covered with plates of silver.† In the parish books a receipt of 15s. is inserted for old timber sold from the little vestuary of St. George's Chapel, but where this was situated is unknown. A third little chapel, or out-building, at the south-east end of the present Church, is now a repository for rubbish and broken tomb-stones.

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* This stock was acquired from various sources, as the sale of stone, lead, and timber, from the monastic buildings; but chiefly, by the sale of the goods of a brotherhood belonging to this Church, consisting of three Priests, three Choristers, and two Sextons, which was not dissolved till the reign of Edward the Sixth. Two hundred and seventy-one ounces of plate, the property of this fraternity, were sold at several times for 67l. 14s. 9d. Many rich dresses were likewise disposed of at the same time, particularly a cope of cloth of gold to Mr. Denny, for 3l. 6s. 8d. together with two altar-cloths of velvet and silk, value 2l. The reason of this plate not being seized by the King's commissioners, is thought to have been owing to the intercession of the Lord Rich, a native of this county, on account of the intention of the parish to build the above tower. Fuller says the bells purchased from the old steeple were for some years hung in a temporary timber frame erected at the south-east end of the church-yard, where then stood two large yew trees, and remained there till the present one was completed; but that, notwithstanding gifts of timber, &c. the funds fell so short, that the said bells were obliged to be sold to raise more money; so that Waltham, which formerly had "*steeple-less bells*, now had a *bell-less steeple*."

History of Waltham Abbey.

† In the churchwardens' accounts, mention is made of six annual *obits*, to defray the expences of which, lands were left by will, and a stock of eighteen cows let out yearly to farm for 18s. The sum allotted for each obit was thus expended: to the parish priest, 4d. To Our Lady's priest, 3d. To the *charnel* priest, 3d. To the two clerks, 4d. To the children, (choristers,) 3d. To the sexton, 2d. To the bellman, 2d. For two tapers, 2d. For oblation, 2d. &c.

Almost every ornamental vestige of grandeur and antiquity which formerly distinguished the exterior of this Church, has been industriously demolished or defaced; and what remains, owes its preservation chiefly to the durable nature of its materials. Much of the beauty of the outside is obscured by modern reparations. The windows in the north aisle, which were once semicircular, have, in general, been made square; a few are pointed. In other parts they retain their original shape, but their ornaments are filled up with plaster. In the inside, the hand of violence is less conspicuous, but every thing displays marks of the most wretched parsimony. The simplicity and grandeur of the ancient remains are much injured by the glare of whitewashing. The brasses are torn away from the gravestones, and it is with difficulty that their impressions can be traced: two or three monuments, more modern, but uninteresting, are all that remain. The pews are of deal, mean, and, for the most part, unpainted; the floor is badly paved, and the figures of the altar-piece disgrace the edifice in which they are placed. The south aisle is but little altered, and the windows retain nearly their original forms: that to the north has been more modernized. Towards the east end of it is a handsome screen of wood, displaying the arms of Philip and Mary. Near this, formerly stood a painting in glass of the founder Harold, which was destroyed by the puritanical zeal of the fanatics about the beginning of the reign of Charles the First. The font is apparently very ancient.

In this Church, besides the founder Harold, were interred HUGH NEVIL, Protho-forester of England, who died full of years about the sixth of Henry the Third, anno 1222; his body, says Matthew Paris, was buried in the Church of Waltham, under a noble engraven marble sepulchre; JOHN NEVIL, his son, and the heir of his virtues, as well as his revenues, and offices; (both of these were good benefactors to the Monastery :) ROBERT PASSELEW, Archdeacon of Lewes, a creature of Henry the Third, much hated in his lifetime for his exactions and mean compliances, who died in disgrace at his house at Waltham in the year 1252; and later, Sir Edward Denny,

Denny, son of Anthony, Lord Denny; together with a great number of persons of rank and authority.

Harold was interred at the east end of the Abbey Church, at the distance of about forty yards from the termination of what forms the present structure. His tomb was plain, but of rich grey marble; and had on it a sort of cross fleury, "much descanted on by art:" it was supported by pillarets, one pedestal of which Fuller mentions to have been in his possession at the time of his writing his History. The epitaph is said to have been only these two expressive words, *Harold infelix*;* but Weever gives half a dozen lines of barbarous Latin, which are probably genuine, as they

* The unfortunate Harold offered up his vows and prayers for victory in Waltham Church previous to his engagement with the Norman invader; in which, by the shot of an arrow through the left eye into his brain, he was slain, on Saturday, the 14th of October, 1066, having reigned nine months and odd days. His body, by the mediation of his mother *Githa*, and two religious men of this Abbey, called *Oregod* and *Ailric*, being obtained of the Conqueror, (who for some time denied it burial, affirming that it was not fit for him whose ambition had caused so many funerals,) was, with the bodies of his two brothers, *Girih* and *Leofwin*, slain at the same time, brought hither, attended by a small dejected remainder of the English nobility, and with great lamentation solemnly interred.

Previous to the contest, *Girih*, the brother of Harold, with a prophetic foreboding, is said to have advised him not to set his crown and life on the doubtful issue of a single battle; offering, if the Monarch's conscience any ways upbraided him for his engagements with the Duke of Normandy, to head the troops, and take the event of the day on himself, while Harold retired, and reserved him for fresh encounters. "If," said he, "you will commit the charge to me, I will perform both the part of a kind brother and a courageous leader: for being clear in conscience, I shall sell my life, or discomfit your enemy, with more felicity." But the King not liking his speech, answered, "I will never turn my back with dishonor to the Norman, neither can I in any sort digest the reproach of a base mind." This heroic answer, however, instead of promoting emulation among his followers, was imputed by them to obstinacy, and the King was abandoned to the thickest of the fight, and the kingdom to strangers and slavery.

Harold's two brothers lost their lives fighting manfully under his banner, "which was brondet (saith Robert of Gloucester) with fygur of a man fyghting biȝet al about wyth gold and preciose stons, which Baner aftur t: e Bataille Duc William sent to the Pope in tokne of the victory."

Weever, p. 643.

they are preserved in a very ancient manuscript once belonging to the Abbey.* In the reign of Queen Elizabeth, a gardener belonging to the above-named Sir Edward Denny, discovered, in digging, a large stone coffin, which, from the spot where it lay, was supposed to contain the royal corpse: the remains, on being touched, mouldered into dust. A second coffin within these few years has been found near the same place, containing an entire skeleton enclosed in lead, which conjecture has identified as one of his brothers.

The history of Waltham Town is so nearly identified with that of the Abbey, that the completion of the latter leaves but little to record with respect to the former. The various streams of the river Lea in its neighbourhood, are traditionally supposed to flow in the same channels which the Great Alfred made to divert the current when he drew off the water, and left the Danish fleet on shore. The number of houses in this parish, as returned under the late act, was 326; of inhabitants, 1837. Some of the inhabitants derive employment from the manufacture of printed linens, and the making of pins: for the latter purpose some large new buildings were erected about six years ago. On one of the branches of the Lea, near the town, are some *Gunpowder Mills*, now in the occupation of Government: these have been partly rebuilt since the year 1801, when considerable damage was done by the blowing-up of the Corning-house. Among the natives of this parish are recorded ROGER DE WALTHAM, Canon of St. Paul's, a writer in the thirteenth century; and JOHN DE WALTHAM, Keeper of the Privy Seal to Richard the Second.

In Chingford parish is an "estate," says Morant, "holden of the Rector, called SCOTTS MAYHEWS, alias BRINDWOODS, the owner of which, on every alienation, with his wife, man-servant, and maid-servant, each single on a horse, come to the Parsonage, where the owner does his homage, and pays his relief, in manner following. He blows three blasts with his horn; carries a hawk on his fist; his servant has a greyhound in a slip; both for the use of the Rector. He receives a chicken for his hawk,

* Har. MS. 3776.

hawk, a peck of oats for his horse, and a loaf of bread for his greyhound. They all dine; after which, the Master blows three blasts with his horn, and they all depart."

HIGHAM HILLS, in the parish of Woodford, is the seat of John Harman, Esq. who purchased the manor about ten years ago of William Hornby, Esq. formerly Governor of Bombay. The House, a square brick building with wings, is seated on a high ridge of ground, which slopes to the east and to the west: in both these directions the prospects are extensive, diversified, and beautiful. On the north-west the eye is directed over a finely wooded country into Hertfordshire; to the west and south-west are the hills of Highgate, and the spires of the Metropolis. The east front commands a rich woodland prospect over parts of Hainault Forest, the Vale of the Thames, &c. which are shut in by a ridge of the Kent hills. On the western side of the house is a fine Park, bounded by parts of Epping Forest to the north and south, and by a piece of water at the bottom. The whole is encompassed by a winding walk, which, contiguous to the house, is ornamented with numerous indigenous and exotic trees and shrubs, and is afterwards conducted through the Forest. The house was built by the late Anthony Bacon, Esq. who sold it to Governor Hornby. The latter gentleman enlarged it, and improved the general features of the demesne; but its principal ornamental beauties have been created by the present proprietor. The manor, connected with this estate, was, in the time of Edward the Confessor, the property of Haldan, a freeman. At the time of compiling the Domesday Survey, it belonged to Peter de Valoines, since which it has passed through various families.

Near WOODFORD BRIDGE is an *Artificial Slate Manufactory*, the property of Sir James Wright, Bart. who has a patent for the invention. This slate is used for covering roofs and fronts of houses; for making pendant frames for hay-ricks, and stacks of corn, and safeguards to preserve them from vermin: it is also used for water-pipes and gutters. The buildings where the manufacture is carried on, are of this slate, and were erected about thirty years ago.*

CLAYBERRY

* Lysons' Environs of London, Vol. IV. p. 287.

CLAYBERRY HALL, the seat of James Hatch, Esq. is situated at a short distance from Woodford Bridge, on a high spot of ground, commanding some fine prospects of forest scenery, and grazing land. The grounds have been improved, and greatly enlarged, by the present possessor, who purchased the estate and mansion of *Luxborough House*, the latter of which he has pulled down, and annexed the former, with some others, to his own demesne. The House is a neat modern building, with a projecting portico in front: the park abounds with fine timber. The estate was purchased by Mr. Hatch, in 1789, of Montague Burgoyne, Esq. who obtained it by his marriage with a Miss Harvey.

WOODFORD is a large village, consisting principally of neat and respectable houses, mostly occupied by merchants and tradesmen of London. This manor is the property of Sir James Tylney Long, Bart. The custom of the manor is that called Borough-English, by which the younger son inherits. In the Church-yard is a remarkable *Yew tree*; its girth at three feet from the ground, is eleven feet, nine inches; at four feet and a half from the ground, fourteen feet, three inches: the spread of its boughs forms a circumference of about 180 feet.* Here also is a lofty marble column of the Corinthian order, to the memory of "the ancient and knightly family of GODFREY, which flourished many years in the county of Kent." The celebrated Sir Edmundbury Godfrey was of this family.

In an old Mansion called HEARTS, at WOODFORD ROW, resided the late Richard Warner, Esq. who planted a botanical garden here, and was very successful in the culture of rare exotics. The *Plantæ Woodfordienses*, written by this gentleman, and privately circulated, was the result of the annual herborizations of himself and acquaintance in this neighbourhood. The House was built in the year 1617, by Sir Humphrey Handforth, Master of the Wardrobe to James the First; who is said to have been frequently entertained here when hunting in the forest. The present owner, Jervoise Clark Jervoise, Esq. obtained it by his marriage with Mr. Warner's niece.

Near

* Lysons' Environs of London, Vol. IV. p. 237.

Near the eastern boundary of the parish of Walthamstow, and adjoining that of Woodford, is a New House, lately erected on an estate called HEATHCROFT-GROVE. It is the property of, and was built by, Charles Cooke, Esq. from designs by Mr. Edward Gifford, Architect, who has displayed much taste and judgment in the elevation of the two fronts, and in the simplicity and compactness of the interior arrangement. It stands on the western side of a hill, which commands a finely diversified and extensive prospect over the vale of the Lea, and over the Metropolis. The west or principal front has a semicircular portico, supported by four Ionic columns, twenty-two feet in height; and to the centre of the house, which is nearly square, are attached two small wings. The grounds, though not extensive, have been laid out, and planted with much taste, by Mr. Sandys; and the proprietor has contended with great difficulty of situation, in forming a piece of water of three acres on the side of the hill.

The FOREST HOUSE, anciently called *Goring House*, from having been the seat of Charles Goring, Earl of Norwich, in the reign of Charles the Second, is a plain square building, now the property of Samuel Bosanquet, Esq. whose family acquired it by purchase from Sir John Heathcote, Bart.

LEYTONSTONE, a chapelry in the parish of Leyton, is a long straggling place, containing many houses, inhabited, like most other villages in this vicinity, by traders and merchants of the Metropolis.

LEYTON, or LOW LEYTON, so named from its situation on low ground near the river Lea, is a pleasant village, chiefly consisting of respectable houses, embosomed in trees. Various antiquities have been found in this parish; but the evidence of its having been the site of a Roman station, though supported by Camden, and some other antiquaries, does not appear to be sufficiently strong to warrant its being positively asserted. Camden himself speaks with hesitation; and though willing to suppose it the *Durolitum* of Antoninus, from its name Leyton, or the *Town on the Ley*, retaining some traces of the former appellation, which "in British signifies *Water of Ley*," acknowledges that, to justify
this

this opinion, the distance of Durolitum from London (fifteen miles) must be regarded as inaccurate. It is therefore most probable, that the remains discovered at Leyton, and in its neighbourhood, belonged only to some Roman villas. That the arguments for the site of Durolitum being in this parish, are not incontestible, is evinced by the contrariety of opinions respecting that station: Baxter places it at Waltham; Salmon, at Cheshunt; and Stukeley, at Romford. The following particulars of Antiquities discovered here are given by Gough* from a letter of Mr. Lethieullier's.

“ In the year 1718, Mr. Gansell (then owner of the manor-house) having occasion to enlarge his gardens, on digging up about two acres of ground, found under the whole, very large and strong foundations: in one place all stone, with considerable arches, an arched door-way with steps down to it, but filled up with gravel. In many of the foundations were a great quantity of Roman tiles and bricks, mixed with more modern materials, and several rough and broken pieces of hard stone, some part of which, when polished, proved to be Egyptian granite: two large, deep wells, covered over with stone: and in digging a pond, after the workmen had sunk through a bed of clay about ten feet, they met with a great quantity of oak timber, mortized together like a floor, grown very hard and black, but uncertain how far it reached. Several Roman brass and silver coins, both Consular and Imperial, to the time of Julius Caesar, were scattered about; as well as some silver coins, with Saxon characters. The ground where these discoveries were made, adjoins the Church-Yard, where, some time before, a large urn of coarse red earth was found.”

The *Church* at Leyton is of brick, and consists of a nave, chancel, and north aisle, with a tower at the west end. The interior walls are covered with escutcheons and monuments; many of them in commemoration of eminent persons, who have been interred here.† Among the tombs in the chancel, is a memorial of the much celebrated Historian and Antiquary, JOHN STRYPE, who,

* *Britannia*, Vol. II. p. 50.

† See *Lysons' Environs*, Vol. IV. p. 165.

who, by licence of the Bishop of London, though never inducted, held this vicarage during the long period of sixty-eight years. He was buried here in 1737, at the age of ninety-four. In the north aisle is the monument of CHARLES GORING, Earl of Norwich, who died in 1670; and a marble tablet to the memory of Mr. WILLIAM BOWYER, a learned and eminent Printer, whose Life, as written by Mr. John Nichols, his apprentice, partner, and successor, and at whose charge the tablet was erected, contains many interesting particulars of the State of Literature, and of Literary Characters, through great part of the last century. Mr. Bowyer died at the age of seventy-four, in the year 1777. At Leyton is a *Free-School* for twenty poor boys of this, and the adjoining parish of Walthamstow; a School of Industry for thirty girls; and four Sunday Schools, supported by subscription, in which 120 children receive education.

SIR THOMAS ROE, the first English Ambassador to the East, was born in this parish, about the year 1580. In 1604 he was knighted, and went on a voyage of discovery to the West Indies. In 1614 he was sent, by James the First, on an Embassy to the Great Mogul, from whose Court he removed to that of the Grand Signior, where he obtained very essential advantages for his countrymen. On his return, he was made Chancellor of the Garter, and a member of the Privy Council. He died in the year 1644. The celebrated Alexandrian Manuscript of the Greek Testament, of which a *fac simile* was published by Dr. Woide a few years ago, was brought by Sir Thomas into this country.

About one mile from Leyton, to the south, is the manor of RUCKHOLT, where are some remains of an ancient Entrenchment, now nearly obscured by trees, which have been planted over the chief part of the area. It is situated on a small eminence, rising from the river Lea, and appears to consist of a square embankment, inclosing a circular one. The latter is about thirty-three yards in diameter, and is surrounded by a moat, about six yards in width: the former has traces of a double rampart, divided by a ditch.

Not

Not far distant, on a branch of the Lea, are the **TEMPLE MILLS**, said to have anciently belonged to the Knights Templars, and afterwards to the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem. In the year 1720, they were used for brass works; but are now appropriated to the manufacture of sheet lead.

The celebrated **Bow BRIDGE** crosses the river Lea, and is situated near the village of Stratford, about two miles to the east of London on the great Essex road. Stowe, Leland, and other writers, concur in ascribing the first erection of this Bridge to Maud, or Matilda, the Queen of Henry the First; as well as in the derivation of its name of *Bow*, or arched Bridge, which it is said to have received from its being the first arched stone bridge erected in this county. The particulars of its foundation are thus related by Stowe.

“ This Matilda, when she saw the forde to be dangerous for them that travelled by the old foord over the river of Lue, (for she herself had been well washed in the water,) caused two stone bridges to be builded, of the which, one was situated over Lue, at the head of the towne of Stratford, now called Bow, because the Bridge was arched like a bow; a rare piece of worke; for before that time the like had never been seen in England. The other over the little brooke commonly called Chavelse Bridge. She made the King’s highway of gravel between the two Bridges;” and gave certain manors to the Abbess of Berking; and a mill, commonly called Wiggon or Wiggen Mill, “ for the repayringe of the Bridges and highwaie. But afterwards Gilbert de Mountfichet founded the Abbey of Stratford in the marishes, the Abbot whereof, by giving a piece of money, purchased to himself the manors and mill aforesaid, and covenanted to repair the Bridges and way, till at length he laid the charge upon one Hugh Pratt, who lived near the Bridges and causeway, allowing him certain loaves of bread daily; and by the alms of passengers he kept them in due repair; as did his son William after him, who, by the assistance of Robert Passelew, the Chief Justice in the time of Henry the Third, obtained these tolls—Of every cart carrying corn, wood, coal, &c. one penny; of every one carrying *tasel*, twopence;

and of one carrying a *dead Jew*, eightpence; and put up a bar with locks on Lockkebreggs: but Philip Basset, and the Abbot of Waltham, having broke the bar rather than pay the toll, the Bridges and causeway remained unrepaired. In the mean time Eleanor, Queen of King Henry the Third, caused them to be mended at her own charge by William the keeper of her Chapel; and William de Carleton kept them afterwards in repair, till a new agreement between the Abbess and Abbot took place for that purpose.”*

The tenants of the abbey lands seem, in the seventeenth century, to have been unwilling to fulfil their agreement; for in 1691 an information was laid in the King's Bench against Buckeridge, and others, for not repairing a high-way, *ratione tenuræ*, by reason of their holding, or tenure, between Stratford and Bow. It was tried at the bar by an Essex jury. The evidence for the King was, that Maud, the Queen of Henry the First, built this Bridge, &c. (to the tenor before mentioned:) that at the Dissolution, the Stratford Abbey lands being vested in the Crown, were granted to Sir Peter Mewtis, who held them charged for the repairing of this highway; and from him, by several mesne assignments, they came to the defendants: these facts being proved, the possessors of the abbey lands were ordered to abide by the tenure.†

The many necessary reparations Bow Bridge has undergone in a course of centuries, render it impossible to say what part of the original structure is at this time remaining. The present Bridge consists of three arches, and bears evident marks of antiquity.‡ A new cut, across the meadows and low grounds, was made from the river Lea about twenty-five years ago; by which several miles were saved in the course of the navigation to Ware, in Hertfordshire.

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WEST-

* Stowe's Annals, edit. 1631, p. 139.

† Morant's Essex, Vol. I. p. 20.

‡ Select Views, No. 7.

WEST-HAM, a large village, pleasantly situated about four miles from Whitechapel, had formerly a market, the charter for which was procured, in 1253, by Richard de Montfichet; whose ancestor, William de Montfichet, had built an ABBEY at STRATFORD-LANGTHORNE, in this parish, in the year 1135, and endowed it with the manor of West-Ham, and other estates. On the Dissolution, it became the property of the Crown; but has since been divided, and passed through various families. The Abbey was founded for Cistercian Monks, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and All Saints. "This house," says Leland, "first sett among the low marishes, was after, with sore fludes, defacyd, and removid to a cell, or graunge, longynge to it, caullyd *Burgestede*, in Estsex, a mile or more from Billerica. Thes monks remainid at Burgestede untill entrete was made that they might have sum helpe otherwyse. Then one of the Richards, Kings of England, toke the ground and Abbay of Stratford into his protection, and re-edifienge it, browght the foresayde monks agayne to Stratford, where amonge the marsches they re-inhabytyd."*

In the year 1307, the Abbot of Stratford-Langthorne was summoned to Parliament: and in 1335, John de Bohun, Earl of Hereford and Essex, High Constable of England, was buried in the Abbey. On the Dissolution, its revenues were valued at 652l. 3s. 1½d. annually; and its possessions were granted, by Henry the Eighth, to Sir Peter Mewtis, or Meautis, who had been Ambassador to the Court of France. Henry Meautis, Esq. a descendant of Sir Peter's, alienated the site of the Abbey, with the Abbey mills, and 240 acres of land, to Sir John Nulls, in the year 1633. Since that period it has been possessed by different families. Margaret, the unfortunate Countess of Salisbury, whom the remorseless Henry the Eighth caused to be beheaded in her old age, on a charge of high treason, appears to have resided within the precincts of the Abbey about the time of its dissolution.

The chief remains of the monastic buildings now standing, is a brick gateway, which was formerly the entrance to the conventual precincts,

* Itinerary, Vol. VII. p. 9.

precincts, and an ornamented arch, which appears to have been the entrance to the Chapel. "The foundations of the Convent were dug up, and removed, by the present proprietor; in doing of which, no antiquities worthy of note were found, except a small onyx seal, with the impress of a griffin, set in silver, on which is the following legend, '*Nuncio vobis gaudium et salutem*;' perhaps the priory seal of one of the Abbots."* The site of the precincts was moated, and contained about sixteen acres: the Abbey stood about three furlongs south-west from the present Church.

The *Church*, dedicated to All Saints, is a spacious edifice, consisting of a nave, chancel, and side aisles to both: at the west end is a square tower, seventy-four feet in height. Various eminent persons have been buried in the interior, which contains several handsome monuments. In the Church-Yard was interred GEORGE EDWARDS, Esq. F. R. S. who was born at Stratford-Langthorne, and became celebrated for his acquaintance with Natural History, but particularly that of birds: besides various papers in the Philosophical Transactions, he published seven quarto volumes on Subjects in Natural History, upwards of 600 of which had never been before described. He died in the year 1773, at the age of eighty-one.

Numerous benefactions have been made in this parish for charitable purposes. A *Charity School* was instituted here, in the year 1723, for ten boys; but the endowments having been greatly increased by bequests from different persons, forty boys and twenty girls are now educated and clothed; and on leaving the school, receive five pounds each as an apprentice fee: the expences are defrayed with the interest of the capital, aided by voluntary gifts, and collections made at an annual charity sermon. A *School* for clothing and educating forty poor girls has also been established in this parish, under the injunctions of the Will, dated 1761, of Mrs. Sarah Bonnell; who left 3000*l.* in various stocks, for these purposes. West-Ham parish is divided into three wards, bear the appellations of Church-Street, Stratford-Langthorne, and

F f 2

Plaistow :

† Lysons' Environs, Vol. IV. p. 249. edit. 1796.

Plaistow: the collective number of inhabitants is 6485; of houses 1105: many of the former are employed in some manufactories of printing calicoes. The *West-Ham Water-works*, built on the river Lea, are worked by a steam, and a water engine: they supply water to the villages of Stratford-Langthorne, Bromley, and Bow; Stepney, Bethnal Green, and the lower part of Whitechapel.

At GREEN-STREET, a hamlet in East-Ham parish, about one mile north-west from the Church, is an ancient mansion, with a brick tower adjoining, in which, according to the current tradition, Anne Boleyn, Queen of Henry the Eighth, was at some period confined. This tale is evidently untrue, as the tower is of more modern date. The mansion itself, is supposed to have been the residence of the *Nevills*, of whom Earl Edmund was buried in East-Ham Church. It afterwards belonged to Sir Francis Holcroft, and still later to the *Garrards*: it has since passed through various families.

The Church at EAST-HAM, dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen, is supposed, from its form, to be of considerable antiquity. Like the Churches of the primitive Christians, most of which were originally Pagan Temples, or *Basilicæ*, it consists of a sanctuary, an ante-temple, and a temple; or, as they are now called, a nave and two chancels. The upper chancel, or sanctuary, is semi-circular at the east end, and has narrow pointed windows: on the south side is a piscina, with a double drain, divided by a column forming two plain pointed arches, between which is a bracket for a lamp. On the south wall of the lower chancel are several Saxon arches, with zig-zag ornaments, which appear to have extended into the nave.* Behind the communion table is a handsome monument to the memory of EDMUND NEVILL, Lord Latimer, and (reputed) seventh Earl of Westmoreland of that family: the effigies represent the Earl and his Lady, Jane, Countess of Westmoreland, in kneeling attitudes. Several other distinguished personages have been interred in the Church and Church-Yard; and among them the renowned antiquary Dr. STUKELEY, who, as appears by the register,

* Lysons' Environs, Vol. IV. p. 142, 143.

gister, was buried in March 1765. The spot chosen for his burial-place was fixed on by himself, during a visit to the Rev. Mr. Sims, a former vicar of this parish: by his own request, the turf was laid smoothly over his grave, without any monument.”*

BARKING,

DISTINGUISHED in the maps as a market town, though now undeserving of the name, is supposed to have derived its present appellation from *Burgh-ing*, the Fortification in the Meadow, some considerable entrenchments being still visible in the fields adjoining a farm called *Uphall*, about a quarter of a mile north from the town. The form of this entrenchment “is not regular, but tending to a square; the circumference measures 1792 yards: the inclosed area contains forty-eight acres, one rood, and thirty-four perches. On the north, east, and south sides, it is single trenched; on the west side, which runs parallel with the river Roding, and at a short distance from it, is a double trench, and bank: on the south side is a deep morass; but on the north and east sides the ground is dry and level, the trench, from frequent ploughing, being almost filled up. At the north-west corner was an outlet to a very fine spring of water, which was guarded by an inner work, and a high keep, or mound of earth.”†

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* Lysons' *Environs*, Vol. IV. p. 148.

† Quoted by Lysons from a Manuscript History of Barking, written by Mr. Lethieullier, and now in the possession of Edward Hulse, Esq. who married Mr. L's niece. “Mr. Lethieullier thinks that this entrenchment was too large for a camp; his opinion therefore is, that it was the site of a Roman town; but he confesses that no traces of buildings have been found on the spot, and accounts for it on the supposition that the materials were used for building *Barking Abbey*, and for repairing it after it was burnt by the Danes. As a confirmation of this opinion, he relates, that, upon viewing the ruins of the Abbey Church, in 1750, he found the foundations of one of the great pillars composed in part of Roman bricks: a coin of Magnentius was found also among the ruins.” *Lysons' Environs*, Vol. IV. p. 58.

Whatever may have been the origin of Barking, its consequence in after times was certainly owing to its Abbey, the founding of which, and subsequent establishment, attracted an increasing population. Though once extremely flourishing, scarcely any vestiges of this Abbey are remaining; nor have any of the buildings been standing within the memory of man. The ensuing particulars of its history are narrated by Lysons, from the Manuscript by Mr. Lethieullier.

“BARKING ABBEY, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, is said to have been the first Convent for women established in this kingdom. It was founded about the year 670, in the reigns of Sebbi and Sighere, Kings of the East Saxons, by *St. Erkenwald*, Bishop of London, in compliance with the earnest desire of his sister Ethelburgh, who was appointed the first Abbess. The founder was nearly allied to the Saxon Monarchs, being great grandson of Uffa, the first King, and second son of Anna, the seventh King of the East Angles: he was also the first Bishop who sat in the See of London after the building of St. Paul's Church by King Ethelbert. The monastic writers speak in very high terms of his piety and zeal in the discharge of his episcopal functions; and tell us, that, when he was grown weak through age and infirmities, he was carried about in a litter from place to place throughout his diocese, constantly teaching and instructing the people till his death, which happened about the year 685, whilst he was on a visit to his sister Ethelburgh, at Barking. After his death, great disputes arose (as we are informed by the monkish annalists) between the Nuns of Barking, the Convent of Chertsey, and the Citizens of London, about the interment of his body, each claiming an exclusive right to the bones of the venerable prelate. Nor was this dispute terminated without the intervention of a miracle, which declared in favor of the Londoners, who having obtained the body, bore it off in triumph: on the road they were stopped at Ilford and Stratford by the floods: upon this occasion the historians record another miracle, by which a safe and easy passage was procured for the corpse of the holy man and its attendants. The Bishop was canonized, and frequent miracles were said to be

wrought at his tomb. So highly was his memory revered, that, in the reign of Stephen, a magnificent shrine was erected against the east wall of St. Paul's Cathedral, into which his bones were translated with great solemnity; and vast sums were expended, from time to time, in adorning it with gold, silver, and precious stones.

“ Ethelburgh, the founder's sister, before mentioned, was the first Abbess: the time of her death is uncertain; but she was buried at Barking, and received the honor of canonization. Her successor was Hildelitha, who had been sent for by the founder out of France, to instruct his sister Ethelburgh in the duties of her new station: she also obtained a place among the Romish Saints. After her, several Abbesses of the royal blood succeeded: Oswyth, daughter of Edifrith, King of Northumberland; Ethelburgh, wife to Ina, King of the West Saxons, who was canonized; and Cuthburgh, sister of King Ina, who had been a Nun at Barking in the time of St. Hildelitha: she died about the middle of the eighth century. Nothing more is known of this Monastery till the year 870, when it was burnt to the ground by the Danes, and the Nuns either slain or dispersed. It lay desolate about one hundred years, being within the territories which were ceded by Alfred to Gormund, the Danish Chief. About the middle of the tenth century it was rebuilt by King Edgar, as an atonement for his having violated the chastity of Wulfhilda, a beautiful Nun at Wilton, whom he appointed Abbess: he restored the Monastery to its former splendor, and endowed it with large revenues. After Wulfhilda had presided over the Convent many years, some dissensions arose between her and the Priests of Barking, who referred their cause to Elfrida, the widow of Edgar, and mother of Ethelred, whom they requested to eject Wulfhilda, and assume the government herself; a proposal to which she readily assented. Wulfhilda retired to a religious house which she had founded at Horton, in Devonshire; and the Queen putting herself at the head of this Monastery, continued to preside over it, as the historians inform us, twenty years; at the end of which term, a violent sickness seizing her at Barking, she repented of the injury she had

done to Wulfhilda, and reinstated her in her former situation. Wulfhilda, seven years afterwards, died at London, whither she had retired to avoid the Danish army, then invading England, and was enrolled among the Romish Saints, being the fifth Abbess who had received the honor of canonization. At the time of the Norman Conquest, Alfgiva, a Saxon lady, who had been appointed by Edward the Confessor, was Abbess.

"The historians, Carte and Brady, relate, that William the Conqueror, soon after his arrival in England, retired to Barking Abbey, and there continued till the fortress he had begun in London was completed: hither, they say, whilst preparations were making for his coronation, repaired to him, Edwin, Earl of Mercia, Morcar, Earl of Northumberland, and many others of the nobility and great men of the land, who swore fealty to him, and were reinstated in their possessions. Others (among whom are Simon Dunelmensis, and Roger Hovedon) affirm, that Berkhamstead was the place of the King's abode; but there are strong circumstances in favor of the former opinion. Berkhamstead Castle was not built till after the manor was given to Earl Morton by the Conqueror; yet, admitting that a mansion might have previously stood there fit for a royal residence, the proximity of Barking to London, certainly rendered that place a more convenient station for the new Monarch.

"After the death of Alfgiva, Maud, Henry the First's Queen, assumed the government of the Convent; and it is not improbable this connection with Barking induced her the more readily to build the Bridge at Bow.* Maud, wife of King Stephen, followed the example of her aunt, on the death of Agnes, the Abbess, in 1136; but she soon resigned the charge to Adeliza, sister of Paris Fitz-John, a Baron of considerable note, who was slain in a battle near Cardigan. During her government, Stephen, with his Queen, and the whole Court, were entertained for several days at the Abbey. Her successor was Mary, sister to Thomas à Becket, Archbishop of Canterbury, whose appointment is said to have been intended, by Henry the Second, as an atonement for the in-justice

* See page 448.

justice he had done her family, who were banished the kingdom as a punishment for the Prelate's insolence.

“ From the time of Mary à Becket, but few remarkable occurrences are connected with the history of this Abbey. The most material, as it affected the interests of its inmates, was a great inundation, which happened about the year 1376, and broke down the banks of the Thames at Dagenham. It is first mentioned in a record of the ensuing year, when the Convent petitioned that they might be excused from contributing an aid to the King, at the time of a threatened invasion, on account of the expences they had been at in endeavoring to repair their damages. The plea was allowed; and the same reasons were generally pleaded with success, as an exemption from contributions of a like nature. In 1380, and 1382, the Abbess and Convent state, that their income was then diminished 400 marks per annum, by inundations, and that they had scarcely sufficient left to maintain them. In 1409, they state, that they had expended 2000*l.* to no purpose, in endeavoring to repair their banks. The next year it was set forth, that the revenues of the Convent were sunk so low, that none of the ladies had more than fourteen shillings-per annum, for clothes and necessaries. In consequence of these several petitions, they obtained frequent exemptions from taxes, and other burthens; writs to impress labourers to work at their banks, and licence to appropriate certain Churches to the use of the Convent. Eleanor, Duchess of Gloucester, retired to Barking Abbey after the murder of her husband in 1397, and died there in 1399; having, as some say, professed herself a nun. During the time of the Queen Dowager, Catherine de la Pole, Edmund and Jasper Tudor, her sons by Owen Tudor, were sent to be educated at this Abbey, a certain salary being allowed to the Abbess for their maintenance.

“ The nuns of Barking were of the Benedictine order. The Abbess was appointed by the King till about the year 1200, when, by the interference of the Pope, the election was vested in the Convent, and confirmed by the royal authority. The Abbess

of Barking was one of the four who were Baronesses* in right of their station; for being possessed of thirteen Knights' fees and a half, she held her lands of the King by a barony; and, though her sex prevented her from having a seat in Parliament, or attending the King in the wars, yet she always furnished her quota of men, and had precedency over the Abbesses. In her Convent she always lived in great state; her household consisted of Chaplains, an Esquire, Gentlemen, Gentlewomen, Yeomen, Grooms, a Clerk, a Yeoman-Cook, a Groom-Cook, a Pudding-Wife," &c.†

Barking Abbey was surrendered to Henry the Eighth in November, 1539, when an annual pension of 200 marks was granted to Dorothy Barley, the last Abbess, and various smaller pensions to the nuns, who were then thirty in number. The site of the conventual buildings, with the demesne lands of the Abbey, were granted, by Edward the Sixth, to Edward Fynes, Lord Clinton, who the next day conveyed them to Sir Richard Sackville. Since that period they have passed through various families to the widow of the late Joseph Keeling, Esq. The manor of Barking, which probably

* The other three were Wilton, Shaftesbury, and St. Mary, Winchester.

† "Among the Cottonian Manuscripts in the British Museum, is one entitled 'The Charge longynge to the Office of *Cellaress* of Barking,' in which is fully stated the sums she was to collect, with the nature and quantity of the provisions she was to lay in, and the manner and proportion in which they were to be distributed. Among other things, she was to 'bake with elys on Schere-Thursday,' (the Thursday after Lady-day;) to provide 'a pece of whete, and three gallons of milk for frimete on St. Alburgh's (Ethelburgh's) day; three gallons of gude ale for besous; marybones to make white wortys; cripsis and crum-kakes at Shroftyde; conies for the Convent at Shroftyde; twelve stubbeles, and nine schaft-eles, to bake on Schere-Thursday; one potel tyre for the Abbess the same day, and two gallons of red wyne for the Convent; half a goose for each of the nuns on the feast of the Assumption, and the same on St. Alburgh's day; for every lady a lyverey of sowse at Martinmas, a whole hog's sowse (consisting of the face, feet, and groin) to serve three ladies. She was to pay to every lady in the Convent 9d. a year for ruschew-silver; (money to buy butter:) 2d. for her cripsis and crum-kakes at Shroftyde; 1½d. a week for ey-silver (egg-money) from Michaelmas to Allhallows day; from that day till Easter 1¾d. a week; and from Easter to Michaelmas 1½d.' The whole has been printed in Dugdale's *Monasticon*." *Lysons' Environs*, Vol. IV. p. 69.

probably formed part of the original endowment of the Abbey, continued in the Crown from the Dissolution till the year 1628, when Charles the Second sold it to Sir Thomas Fanshaw, for the sum of 2000*l.* reserving a fee-farm rent of 160*l.* which is now payable to the Earl of Sandwich. The manor has become the property of Edward Hulse, Esq. in right of Mary, his wife, niece to the late Smart Lethieullier, Esq. who obtained it by purchase in the year 1754. The whole revenues of the Abbey, according to Speed, were valued, on the Suppression, at 1084*l.* 6*s.* 2¼*d.* annually.

The *Abbey Church*, and *conventual buildings*, occupied an extensive plot of ground, though hardly any remains are now standing. The site of the former may be seen just without the north wall of the present Church-Yard. Mr. Lethieullier, by employing persons to dig among the ruins, procured a ground plan* of this edifice, from which it appears to have been constructed on the general plan of Cathedral Churches. The whole length, from east to west, was 170 feet; the length of the choir, sixty feet; the length of the transept, 150 feet; the breadth of the nave and side aisles, forty-four feet; the breadth of the transept, twenty-eight feet; the diameter of the base of the columns that supported the roof, was eight feet and a half. Among the ruins, an ancient fibula, and a gold ring, have been found; both of which (the former from its legends, the latter from the Salutation of the Virgin Mary, engraven on it) seem to have belonged to some of the inmates of the Convent.†

At

* Since engraved for Lysons' *Environs*, Vol. IV.

† "In the Harleian collection, at the British Museum, is an ancient survey of the manor of Barking, without date, and imperfect. In this survey, the services due from the inferior tenants to the Abbess and Convent are stated at large. One of the tenants, named Robert Gerard, was, among other services, to gather a full measure of nuts, called a *pybot*, four of which should make a bushel; to go a long journey on foot, once a year to Colchester, Chelmsford, Ely, or the like distances, on the business of the Convent, carrying a pack; and other shorter journeys, such as Brentwood, &c. maintaining himself upon the road. He was to pay a fine for the marriage of his daughter, if she married beyond

At the entrance of Barking Church-Yard is an ancient square embattled *gateway*, with octagonal turrets, also embattled, rising from the ground on each side. The entrance arch is pointed; above it is a niche, with a canopy and pinnacles. The apartment over the entrance is, in an old record, named, “The Chapel of the Holy Rood *lofte atte-gate*, edified to the Honour of Almighty God, and of the Holy Rood.” Against the wall in this Chapel is a representation of the Holy Rood, or Crucifixion, in alto-relievo. This structure is generally called *Fire-Bell-Gate*, from its anciently containing a bell, which Mr. Lysons imagines to have been used as a curfew-bell.

The parochial *Church*, dedicated to St. Margaret, consists of a nave, a chancel, a south aisle, two north aisles, running parallel to each other the whole length of the building; and a square embattled tower, standing at the west end. Against the south wall of the chancel is a monument to the memory of SIR CHARLES MONTAGU, brother of the first Earl of Manchester, who died in 1625, at the age of sixty-one. The figure of Sir Charles is represented sitting in a tent, with his head reclined upon a desk, on which are his helmet and gauntlets: the entrance of the tent is guarded by centinels; and near it stands a page with his horse. Various other monuments, and many funeral inscriptions, are contained in this structure; and near the steps of a small Chapel, at the east end of the north aisle, is a marble slab, with a mutilated epitaph, supposed, by Mr. Lethieullier, to have been inscribed in memory of Mauritius, who was made Bishop of London in the year 1087. Mr. Lysons admits it to be of that age, but imagines it to have commemorated the interment of some other person, who was buried during the Bishop’s Life. The remains of the inscription are as follows:

.... AURICII EPI LONDONENSIS ALFCIVE ABBE BE

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Three

beyond the limits of the manor, otherwise to make his peace with the Abbess as well as he could; and if his daughter was to have a bastard child, he was to make the best terms that he could for the fine called *Kyldwyte*: it appears also, that he could not sell his ox, fed by himself, without the Abbess’s permission. Some of the tenants were obliged to watch and guard thieves in the Abbess’s prison.”

Three Chantries were founded here previous to the Dissolution; but they do not appear to have any particular endowments. The Church itself was appropriated to the Abbey, and the Vicar was dieted by the Lady Abbess.*

A spacious and convenient *Workhouse* was built at Barking in 1787, under the powers of an Act of Parliament, obtained the preceding year: within this are apartments appropriated to the education of poor children. The above act contains some regulations respecting the wharf at *Barking Creek*, on the River Roding, which was made navigable to Ilford about the year 1730; and supplies the neighbourhood with coals, timber, &c. Near the wharf is a very large flour mill, that formerly belonged to Barking Abbey. The river flows in two branches on the west side of the town, and about two miles below unites with the Thames. The fishing trade is carried on to a very considerable extent, and furnishes employment for many of the inhabitants.

The *Market-House* was built by Queen Elizabeth; and, together with the market-place, was granted, by Charles the First, in 1616, to Samuel and John Jones, who the same year conveyed them to Thomas Fanshaw and others. In 1679, Sir Thomas Fanshaw gave the profits of the market, and of an annual fair, held on the twenty-second of October, to the poor of the parish; but

* "In the year 1452, after several disputes between Catherine de la Pole, and Sir John Greening, then Vicar, an award was made to the following effect; that, instead of a hog, a goose, a cheese, and a lamb, which the Vicar had heretofore received of the Lady Abbess, he and his successors should have three yards of good cloth, two ells broad; provision every day in the Convent for himself, and his servant, so long as he should not be of a litigious and contentious disposition, he sitting at the Chaplain's table, and his servant with the domestics of the Convent: but if the said Vicar should, without licence of the Lady Abbess, or her deputy, have any familiarity or discourse with any one or two of the nuns, he should, for the first offence, (after proper admonition,) lose his diet for a week; after a second admonition, forfeit a month's diet; and if he should offend a third time, he should be excluded the Convent during life, unless restored by the Lady Abbess's special grace and favor. In all other respects he was to be satisfied with the profits of the vicarage; which were then valued at 27l. 5s. 2d. per annum."—*Lysons' Environs*, copied from an ancient writing now in the possession of the Vicar of Barking.

but the tolls are now of little value, being let, since the decline of the market, for 10*l.* per annum. The parish of Barking is divided into four wards, each of which has distinct officers. The population of Barking-town ward, as ascertained under the late act, was 1585; the number of houses 328. Several Saxon coins, among which was one of King Burgred, are mentioned by Mr. Lysons to have been found towards the south-east part of the town, in the early part of the last century.

Several hundred acres of land in Barking, and the adjoining parishes of Little Ilford, East-Ham, Leyton, and Wansted, are appropriated to the growth of potatoes for the supply of the London markets. The profits are considerable, as the produce from the mode of cultivation, and the quality of the soil, is abundant. The general practice, near Ilford, is to select the smallest potatoes of the preceding year's growth, or to cut the large ones into pieces, leaving two or three eyes in each; these are planted regularly in the spring, and in October the potatoes are generally taken up, and housed for winter consumption.*

EASTBURY HOUSE, about one mile south-east from Barking, is an ancient and very spacious brick edifice, having octangular towers, and curiously ornamented chimnies: some of the rooms are painted in fresco. This mansion is associated by tradition with the Gunpowder-plot: one account asserting that the Conspirators held their meetings here; and another, that it was the residence of Lord Monteagle when he received the letter that led to the discovery. Previous to the Dissolution, the manor of
Eastbury

* The potatoe was introduced into England about the latter end of the sixteenth century, and was then cultivated only in botanical gardens as a curiosity. Gerrard observes, that its taste and virtues were nearly similar to those of the *Batata Hispanorum*, then in much esteem in this country. When Parkinson published his "*Paradisus Terrestris*," our common potatoes, then called *Batata Virginianæ*, were become more common, and were prepared the same way as the Spanish potatoes, being roasted under the embers, and eaten with sack and sugar; or baked with marrow, sugar, and spices; or candied by the confit-makers; in all which ways, says Parkinson, the Virginian potatoe, being dressed, maketh almost as delicate meat as the former. *Lysons' Environs*, Vol. IV. p. 575.

Eastbury was parcel of the possession of Barking Abbey; it now belongs to the Sterry family.

At GREAT ILFORD, a chapelry in Barking Parish, is an *Hospital*, founded in the reign of Stephen, by Adeliza, Abbess of Barking, for a Prior, a Warden, a Master, two Priests, and thirteen Lepers. Ralph Stratford, Bishop of London, drew up a set of statutes for this establishment in the year 1346, ordaining, among other things, that every leper, on his admission, should take an oath of chastity, and of obedience to the Abbess and Convent of Barking. On the Dissolution, its revenues were valued at 16l. 1s. 6½d. per annum. Queen Elizabeth granted the site and possessions to Thomas Fanshaw, Esq. his heirs and assigns, conditionally, that they should appoint a master to keep the Chapel in repair, together with apartments for six paupers, each of whom should receive an annual pension of 2l. 5s. 0d. The Hospital estate thus charged, descended to Thomas Fanshaw, Viscount Dromore, who, in 1668, granted a lease for 1000 years to Thomas Allen, Gent. from whom it passed through various families to the *Gascoignes*, who obtained it by purchase in the year 1739, and are still owners. The Hospital occupies three sides of a small quadrangle; the apartments of the pensioners are situated on the east and west sides, and the Chapel between them on the south: the latter has undergone various alterations and repairs, but appears, from its general style, to have been erected as early as the fifteenth century: its length is about one hundred feet; its breadth little more than twenty.

ALDERSBROOK, in the parish of Little Ilford, became celebrated, in the last century, as the seat of the late antiquary Smart Lethicullier, Esq. who much improved the grounds, and erected a small hermitage, in which he deposited many of the antiquities he had collected in his travels, and through his influence. This structure has been levelled, together with the manor-house, which was pulled down immediately after the manor had been sold, by Edward Hulse, Esq. to the late Sir James Tylney Long, Bart. The site of the mansion is now occupied by a farm-house. At the north-west corner of *Little Ilford Church*, is the burial-place
of

of the Lethieullier family, to several of whom handsome marble monuments have been erected in the apartment over it. On that to the memory of the late Antiquary is the following inscription:

In Memory of
 SMART LETHIEULLIER, Esq.
 A Gentleman of polite Literature and elegant Taste,
 An Encourager of Art and ingenious Artists,
 A studious Promoter of literary Enquiries,
 A Companion, and a Friend, of learned Men;
 Industriously versed in the Science of Antiquity,
 And richly possessed of the curious Productions of Nature;
 But
 Who modestly desired no other Inscription
 On his Tomb
 Than what he had made the Rule of his Life;
 TO DO JUSTLY,
 TO LOVE MERCY,
 AND TO WALK HUMBLY WITH HIS GOD.
 He was born Nov. 3d. 1701,
 And died without Issue Aug. 27th. 1760.

In the parishes of Ilford, East-Ham, West-Ham, Leyton, and Wansted, on the level part of Epping Forest, a great mart for cattle, brought from Wales, Scotland, and the north of England, is held annually, from the latter end of February till the beginning of May. The business between the dealers is principally transacted at the sign of the Rabbits, on the high road, in Little Ilford parish.*

The Manor of WANSTED "was granted by Alfric to the Church of Westminster, and confirmed by Edward the Confessor; but before the end of that Monarch's reign, it became, probably by exchange, the property of the Church of St. Paul, and was afterwards appropriated to the Bishop of London; under whom, at the time of the Domesday Survey, it was held by Ralph Fitz-Brien." It afterwards passed through various possessors to Sir John Heron, whose son, Sir Giles Heron, being attainted, his estates were seized by the Crown; and this manor was granted, by
 Edward

* Lysons' Environs of London, Vol. IV. p. 157.

Edward the Sixth, to Robert, Lord Rich; who made it his country residence, and is supposed to have rebuilt the manor-house, then called *Naked-Hall Hawe*. His son sold it to Robert, Earl of Leicester, who enlarged, and greatly improved the mansion; and in May, 1578, entertained Queen Elizabeth in it for several days: here, also, the same year, in September, he solemnized his marriage with the Countess of Essex. On the Earl's decease, in 1588,* Wansted, with other lands in the adjoining parishes, became the property of the Countess, his widow, who afterwards married Sir Christopher Blount, and, by some family conveyances, this manor became vested in Charles Blount, Earl of Devonshire, on whose death, without lawful issue, in the year 1606, it appears to have escheated to the Crown. The following autumn, James the First spent some time here, after his return from a western progress. It was afterwards the property of George, Marquis of Buckingham; of whom, in 1619, it was purchased by Sir Henry Mildmay, and his wife Anne. Their descendant, Sir William Mildmay, and others, conveyed it to Sir Josiah Child, whose son, Sir Richard, afterwards created Earl Tylney, erected the present *Wansted House* in the year 1715, near the site of the ancient mansion. His grandson, the late Earl Tylney, dying without issue, in the year 1784, this manor, with other large estates, devolved upon his nephew, Sir James Tylney Long, Bart. of Draycot, in Wiltshire; whose only son, James, succeeded to his title and inheritance, in 1794; but being yet a minor, his seat

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* At the time of his death, the Earl was much involved in debt; and an inventory and estimate was in consequence taken of all his property, real and personal, the original of which is now in the British Museum. From this it appears, that the furniture, library, horses, &c. at Wansted, were valued at 1119l. 6s. 6d. The pictures, among which were three portraits of Henry the Eighth, the Queens Mary and Elizabeth, Lady Casimere, Lady Rich, and thirty-six others not particularized, were valued at 11l. 13s. 4d. The library, consisting only of an old Bible, the Acts and Monuments, old and torn, seven Psalters, and a Service Book, was estimated at 13s. 8d. The horses were valued at 316l. 0s. 8d. The bill for the Earl's funeral amounted to the enormous sum (in that age) of 4000l.

at Wansted has been let, and is now in the occupation of the Prince de Condé.

WANSTED HOUSE is a very large and magnificent structure, standing in an extensive park, and surrounded with gardens and pleasure grounds. The principal front is 260 feet in length; the entrance is in the centre, beneath a grand portico of six Corinthian columns; having a flight of steps on each side, and in the tympanum, the arms of the Tylney family, finely sculptured. The garden front has a pediment, enriched with a bas-relief, and supported by six three-quarter columns. The whole building is cased with Portland stone: its depth is between seventy and eighty feet. It consists of two stories; the uppermost contains the Ball-Room, State Bed Chambers, and other principal apartments. Over the door leading into the Great Hall, is a medallion of Colin Campbell, the architect; who obtained great and deserved reputation from the science and judgment displayed by him in the construction of this edifice.

The *Great Hall*, fifty-one feet by thirty-six, is decorated in all the splendor of the last age. The ceiling was gilt and painted by Kent, and displays personifications of Morning, Noon, Evening, and Night. The walls are ornamented with paintings from the Roman History, by Cassali; representing Coriolanus, and his Mother; Porsenna; and Pompey's last interview with his family. Here also is a portrait of KENT, who painted several ceilings here, besides that of the Hall; and two large statues, brought from the ruins of Herculaneum; one of Domitian; the other of Livia, wife to Agrippa. Several suites of rooms extend from each side this apartment; among them is a Ball-Room, a Saloon, and four spacious and well-proportioned State Bed-Chambers.

The *Ball-Room*, seventy-five feet by twenty-seven, is magnificently fitted up, in the taste of the last century; the furniture being richly embossed and gilt, and the walls hung with tapestry. The latter is well executed, and represents the story of Telemachus, and the Battles of Alexander, in two compartments. Over the chimney is a fine painting of Portia, the wife of Brutus, by Schalken. The *Saloon*, thirty feet square, is highly embellished,

and contains several statues, and a picture of Pandora, by Nollis, father of the sculptor of that name. In the *Bed-Rooms* are various paintings; among them is St. John, and the Virgin, by Raphael; Apollo and Narcissus; Cupid, by Corregio; Venus Sleeping; Venus and Adonis; Cupid and Psyche; Diana and Endymion; and several views. The principal *Dining-Room*, forty feet by twenty-seven, is embellished with paintings, by Cassali; representing Sophonisba taking Poison; the Continnence of Scipio; and Alexander directing Apelles to paint Camperpe: some good landscapes, and views of ruins, are also contained in this apartment. Various paintings are distributed through the other rooms; the best are St. Francis, and a Holy Family, by Guido; Herodias, with the Head of St. John Baptist, supposed by Titian; some Flower Pieces, by Baptiste; LORD CHIEF JUSTICE GLYNNE, and his Family, by Lely; and SIR JOSIAH CHILD. On the ceiling of one of the *Drawing-Rooms* is a painting of Jupiter and Semele; and in the centre of the Chimney-Piece, is the family crest, a flying eagle with a snake, in white marble. The prospects from several of the apartments are extremely beautiful, and include a very extensive part of the surrounding country.

From the entrance to the Park, on the west, the road to the House is skirted by rows of fine elms, and winds round a circular piece of water, extending considerably beyond each extremity of the mansion; which, from this approach, has an aspect of much grandeur. The gardens and pleasure grounds were laid out by Sir Richard Child, before the building of the house. Opposite the back front is an easy ascent, through a pleasant vista, to the river Roding, which is formed into canals, and has near it, a curious *Grotto*, constructed by the second Earl Tylney, at an expence of 2000*l.* independent of its costly materials. The slopes or elevated grounds bordering the river, are planted with trees, as well as various other parts.

On the south side of the Park, nearly adjoining the grounds at Aldersbrook, a *Tessellated Pavement* was discovered, in the year 1735, by some laborers, who were digging holes to plant an avenue of trees from the gardens. Its extent, from north to south,

was about twenty feet; and from east to west, about sixteen. The tesserae were of brick, and of various sizes and colors: on the outside they were red, forming a border of about one foot in breadth, within which were several ornaments, and in the centre, the figure of a man, mounted on some beast. A small brass coin of the Emperor Valens, a silver coin, and several large pieces of Roman brick, were found among the ruins. Mr. Lethieullier supposed it to have been the Pavement of a Banqueting-Room, belonging to a Roman villa. About 300 yards further to the south, ruins of brick foundations have been met with; together with fragments of urns, pateræ, Roman coins, and other antiquities.*

“Wansted Church, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, was repaired and enlarged in the early part of the last century, principally at the expence of the first Earl Tylney; but being still found small and incommodious, it was resolved, at the instance of Dr. Glasse, the present Rector, to pull it down, and build a new Church on a larger scale, nearly adjoining to the old site. The first stone of the present structure was laid on the thirteenth of July, 1787; and it was finished and consecrated in 1790. The building is of brick, cased with Portland stone, and having a portico of the Doric order: at the west end is a cupola, supported by eight Ionic columns. The inside is extremely neat and elegant, without any unnecessary embellishment: it consists of a chancel, nave, and two aisles, separated by columns of the Corinthian order. The Pavement (which is remarkable for its beauty and neatness) is of stone, brought from Painswick, in Gloucestershire. In the chancel is a beautiful window of stained glass, by Eginton, of Birmingham, representing Our Saviour bearing the Cross, from the picture at Magdalen College, Oxford. In the east window of the north aisle, are the royal arms; in the south aisle, those of the late Sir J. T. Long, Bart. In the chancel is a superb monument, with the effigies of the deceased in white marble, to the memory of SIR JOSIAH CHILD, Bart. who died in the year 1699.”

* Gough's Camden, Vol. II. p. 50. Lysons' Environs, Vol. IV. p. 232

1699.”* The population of this parish, as enumerated under the late act, was 918; the number of houses, 162.

VALENTINES, the seat of Charles Cameron, Esq. was sold to his father by the co-heiresses of Sir Charles Raymond, Bart. who purchased it of Robert Surman, Esq. by whom the mansion (originally built by James Chadwick, Esq. son-in-law of Archbishop Tillotson) was enlarged, and the grounds improved. Within the former are some valuable pictures, particularly the original of Southwark Fair, by Hogarth; and some fine carving by Gibbons. In the Hot-house is a remarkable *Vine*, of the black Hamburgh sort, which was planted in April 1758; and produces from three hundred weight of fruit to four hundred and a quarter annually. The stem is about fourteen inches in girth, and the branches extend 200 feet. The profits on the grapes have, in some years, been supposed to amount to 300l.† In the gardens is a *Tulip Tree*, upwards of four feet and a quarter in girth, and about eighty feet high. In a field behind Valentines, a stone coffin, containing a human skeleton, was found in the year 1724; and in the same field was discovered, in 1746, an urn of coarse earth, filled with burnt bones.‡

HIGHLANDS, a seat near Valentines, was built by Sir Charles Raymond, whose heirs sold it to the late Earl Tylney: near it is a mausoleum, which forms a conspicuous object for several miles round, and was also built by Sir Charles, who intended it as a burial-place for his family, but it has never been appropriated to that use.

ALDBURY, ALDBOROUGH, or ALDBRO' HATCH, situated in Hainault Forest, is a large and handsome mansion, erected about the year 1730, by Martin Bladen, Esq. one of the Lords of Trade, at the expence of 14,000l. It is now the property of the *Middletons*, who obtained it by marriage towards the middle of the last century.

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* Lysons', Vol. IV. p. 236.

† Gilpin's Forest Scenery, p. 150. Lysons' Environs, Vol. IV. p. 87.

‡ Lysons', Vol. IV. p. 87. from Lethicullier's Manuscripts,

In *Hainault Forest*, about one mile from Barking Side, is a remarkable oak, called FAIRLOP OAK, of such great age, that "the tradition of the country," as Mr. Gilpin has observed in his *Remarks on Forest Scenery*, "traces it half way up the Christian era." It is a very noble tree, and latterly, considerable attention has been employed to preserve it; the extremities of the decayed branches having been sawn off, and Mr. Forsyth's composition applied to keep it from further decay. The stem is rough and fluted, and measures about thirty-six feet in girth; the branches overspread an area nearly 300 feet in circumference. Round this oak, on the first Friday in July, a yearly Fair is held, which appears to have originated from a man of singular character named Day,* who, upwards of eighty years ago, is said to have commenced the practice of dining with his friends annually beneath the shade of the tree. The stalls, &c. extend in a circle round the oak; and in fine weather the fair is attended by a considerable multitude.

BISHOP-HALL, in the parish of Lamborne, was the residence of Henry Spencer, the warlike Bishop of Norwich, who suppressed Ket's rebellion in the reign of Richard the Second. The site is surrounded by a moat, inclosing an area about 200 yards square.

LOUGHTON

* "Mr. Day, who was a block and pump maker in the parish of St. John, Wapping, had a small estate near Fairlop Oak, whither he used to repair annually on the first Friday in July; when it was his custom to invite a select party of his neighbours to accompany him, and dine under the shade of the oak, on beans and bacon. In the course of a few years, other parties were formed on Mr. Day's anniversary, and sutling booths erected for their accommodation: these increasing progressively, booths were erected also, by persons who brought various articles for sale; and about the year 1725, the place began to exhibit the appearance of a regular fair. Mr. Day continued to resort annually to his favorite spot as long as he lived; and in memory of its origin, never failed to provide, on the day of the fair, several sacks of beans, with a proportionate quantity of bacon, which he distributed from the trunk of the tree, to the persons there assembled. For several years before Mr. Day's death, the pump and block makers of Wapping went annually to the fair, in a boat made of one piece of entire fir, covered with an awning, mounted on a coach-carriage, and drawn by six horses, attended with flags and streamers, a band of music,

LOUGHTON HALL is a large irregular building, occupying a pleasant situation, and surrounded by beautiful prospects; the adjacent country is scattered with numerous seats, and respectable villages. Hither the Princess of Denmark, afterwards Queen Anne, is reported to have retired from the court of her father, James the Second, when she saw him pursuing the arbitrary measures which terminated in his expulsion from the Throne.

COOPERSALE, in the parish of Theydon Gernon, has been the seat of the *Archers* from the time of Henry the Fifth, who is said to have changed the name of their ancestor, Simon de Bois, to *Archer*, from the dexterity he displayed in a shooting match with the King at Havering Bower. The Mansion is a spacious edifice, standing on the acclivity of a hill, and surrounded by lawns and pleasure-grounds.

HILL HALL, the seat of Sir William Smith, Bart. in the parish of Theydon Mount, is a large and handsome quadrangular building, occupying a high and commanding eminence, whence the prospects are extensive and interesting. The front is extremely elegant, and a neat cornice runs round the whole building. This mansion was begun in the year 1548, by Sir Thomas Smith,* principal Secretary to Edward the Sixth, and Queen Elizabeth, who obtained it in jointure with his second wife, Philippa, (widow of Sir John Hampden,) and afterwards purchased the reversion. Sir Thomas did not live to complete it, but left provision in his Will for that purpose. Considerable alterations were however

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music, and a great number of persons, both on foot and on horseback. This custom is still continued. A few years before Mr. Day died, his favorite oak lost a large limb, out of which he procured a coffin to be made for his own interment. His death happened on the 19th of October, 1767, at the age of eighty-four. His remains were conveyed to Barking by water, pursuant to his own request, accompanied by six journeymen pump and block makers, to each of whom he bequeathed a new leathern apron and a guinea: there is a tombstone in Barking Church-yard to his memory." *Lysons', Vol. IV. p. 646*: From a pamphlet entitled the Origin of Fairlop Fair, annually held round the Great Oak, on Hainault Forest, in Essex, &c.

* Beauties, Vol. II. p. 63. and Vol. V. p. 388.

made by his successors; several of whom, together with himself, lie buried in the parish *Church*. Against the north wall of the chancel is the monument of SIR THOMAS, whose effigies, in a recumbent position, is placed beneath an arched canopy: the inscriptions are in Latin, and commemorate his attainments and virtues.

ALBYNS, the seat of John R. Abdy, Esq. is a spacious and commodious edifice, in the parish of Stapleford-Abbots, supposed by some to have had Inigo Jones for its architect; but Walpole appears inclined to refer it to one of his scholars. The Abdy family obtained the manor by purchase in the reign of James the First. Sir Robert Abdy, Bart. who represented this county in several Parliaments between the years 1727 and 1748, possessed considerable knowledge on subjects of antiquity and natural history.

The manor of NAVESTOCK was part of the possessions of the Cathedral of St. Paul so early as the reign of Edgar, but having been separated from that Church, was restored by William the Conqueror. Henry the Eighth obtained it by exchange for other lands in 1544. Nine years afterwards, Queen Mary granted it to Sir Edward Waldegrave, who had been imprisoned in her service, and whom she also created Lieutenant of Waltham Forest, and Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster. It is now the property of his descendant, the Earl of Waldegrave, whose seat, called NAVESTOCK HALL, is a plain brick building, pleasantly situated amidst gardens and pleasure-grounds. In the *Church* is a neat mural monument to the memory of the two first EARLS OF WALDEGRAVE; one of whom died in 1741, the other in 1763.

Near the Church at BLACKMORE, was a PRIORY of Austin Canons-regular, founded about the reign of Henry the Second, by Sir John de Saundfort, or Sampford, and dedicated to St. Laurence. After the Dissolution, the manor and site of the Priory were granted, by Henry the Eighth, to John Smyth, and his heirs. The Church is a small ancient building, supposed to have been appropriated to the use of the Priory. The manor-house of Blackmore is called *Jericho*, and said to have been the occasional retreat of Henry the Eighth, when in pursuit of illicit pleasures.

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THOBY PRIORY, in the parish of MOUNTNEY'S-ING, or, as it is corruptly pronounced, *Munnasing*, was founded for Augustine Canons, by Michael de Capua, his wife, and son, between the years 1141 and 1151. On the suppression of the smaller monasteries in 1525, its revenues were valued at 75l. 6s. 10½d. annually; and were then appropriated to the Colleges began by Cardinal Wolsey. After his fall, the manor of Thoby was granted, by Henry the Eighth, to Sir Richard Page, Knt. since which it has passed through various families to the *Blencoes*, who obtained it by marriage about the year 1750.

FITZ-WALTERS, vulgarly called the *Round-House*, in the parish of Shenfield, is the mansion and seat of Thomas Wright, Esq. but was anciently the property of the Fitz-Walter family; who appear to have held it by the service of providing a pair of gilt spurs at the Coronation. This house has a very singular appearance; its form being nearly octangular, with the chimnies rising in the centre.

BRENTWOOD, or BURNTWOOD, as it is generally pronounced, formerly a market-town, is a chapelry in the parish of South-Weald, situated on a commanding eminence on each side the high road to Harwich. Being a considerable thoroughfare, it contains many inns, and public houses; but the buildings are mostly irregular, and mean. The Crown Inn is of very ancient foundation; and, even in Salmon's time, was reputed to have had that sign for 300 years.* The assizes were once held here; and in the High Street are the remains of a *Town-Hall* and *Prison*, now inhabited by a farrier, and other persons, on condition of putting them in repair, when the assizes are again removed thither. Here also is a good *Grammar School*, the endowments of which were given by Sir Anthony Brown, in 1537. The *Chapel* was founded about the year 1221, at the intercession of David, Prior of St. Osyth, for the use of the tenants of a manor belonging to that Monastery: it is a small ancient structure, consisting only of a body and chancel. The number of inhabitants in this township, as returned under the late act, was 1007; that of houses, 182.

Camden supposed the *Cesaromagus* of the Itinerary to have been somewhere in the neighbourhood of Brentwood; but his opinion

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* History of Essex, p. 262. Edit. 1762.

nion (offered, indeed, with great diffidence) has not been supported by other antiquaries. Some pateras, and other earthen vessels, are, however, mentioned by Salmon,* to have been found on a Military Way, leading from Billericay towards Ongar; as well as two Roman lares, dug up near Shenfield. At South-Weald, also on the south-western verge of Weald Hall Park, are traces of a circular camp, single ditched, including about seven acres, supposed to have been a *Castra Exploratorum*.†

WEALD HALL, the seat of Christopher Towers, Esq. is a handsome building, situated in a large Park, in which is a Prospect House, formed like an embattled tower, commanding an extensive and interesting view. The grounds contain some fine wood, and are diversified with pleasant gardens.

At BROOK-STREET, a hamlet to South-Weald, was an HOSPITAL for lepers, founded before the year 1300, by the Bruyns, of South Okendon, whose family retained the presentation of the Master or Warden. This was granted under the name of a Free Chapel to Sir Anthony Brown, but has since been parcelled out, and is now held by different persons.

DAGENHAM PARK is the property of Sir Richard Neave, Bart. who obtained the manor by purchase in the year 1772, and has since pulled down the ancient manor-house, and erected an handsome mansion on a new site.

The district called the Liberty of HAVERING ATTE BOWER,‡ was part of the ancient demesnes of the Saxon Kings, and

* History, &c. of Essex, p. 264.

† Ibid. 263.

‡ The origin of the name of *Havering* is thus related by Morant, from the traditions preserved by various authors. "At the time that the Church of Clavering, in this county, was about to be consecrated, Edward the Confessor riding that way, alighted, out of devotion, to be present at the consecration. During the procession, a fair old man came to the King, and begged alms of him, in the name of God, and St. John the Evangelist. The King having nothing else to give, as his Almoner was not at hand, took the *Ring* from his finger, and gave it to the poor man. Some years afterwards, two English pilgrims having lost their way as they were travelling in the Holy Land, they

saw

and includes the parishes of Hornchurch, Romford, and Havering. It still possesses peculiar privileges, both from prescriptive right, and a charter granted by Henry the Fourth, since confirmed by various Sovereigns. At HAVERING BOWER are some remains of the walls of an ancient Palace, reported to have been built or improved by Edward the Confessor, and afterwards occasionally inhabited by several Kings. Its situation was uncommonly fine; the site commanding several extensive prospects over parts of Essex, Hertfordshire, Kent, Middlesex, and Surry, as well as of the river Thames. Havering Park contains about 1000 acres, and is now let on lease from the Crown. Near the site of the Bower House is an elegant villa, which belonged to the late SIR

JOHN

saw a company clothed in white, with two lights carried before them, and behind them a fair ancient man. The pilgrims joining them, the old man enquired who they were, and whence they came. After hearing their story, he brought them into a fine city, where was a room furnished with all manner of dainties: when they had well refreshed themselves, and rested there all night, the old man set them again in the right way, and at parting, told them he was John the Evangelist; adding, as the Legend proceeds, ‘Say ye unto Edward your Kying, that I grete hym well by the token that he gaaf to me this *Ryng* wyth his own handes at the halowyng of my Chirche, whyche *Rynge* ye shall deliver hym agayn; and say ye to hym, that he dyspose his goodes, for wythin sixe monethes he shall be in the joye of Heven wyth me, where he shall have his rewarde for his chastitie and his good lyvinge.’ At their return home, the two pilgrims waited upon the King, who was then at this *Bower*, and delivered to him the message and the Ring; from which circumstance this place is said to have received the name of *Have-Ring*.

“The whole story is wrought in basso-relievo, in the Chapel at Westminster, where Edward the Confessor lies buried, on the back of the screen that divides it from the altar. The statues of the King and the pilgrims are also over the Courts of the King’s Bench, and Common Pleas, in Westminster Hall, and over the gate going into the Dean’s Yard. His picture was also on the glass of the east window of the south aisle of Romford Chapel, with two pilgrims, and under it, *Johannes per peregrinos misit Regi Edwardo*. The *Ring*, pretended to have been given by him, as above, to St. John, was deposited, among other reliques, in his Abbey at Westminster; and an indulgence for six years and 360 days, was granted to this supposed Ring of St. Edward.” The authorities quoted for this relation, are as follows: *Ailred Rievallensis*, Col. 397, 398. *Legenda Aurea*, printed by William Caxton, fol. 308. *Dart’s Hist. of Westminster Abbey*, Vol. I. p. 51. *Weever*. p. 647; and *Camden’s Remains*, p. 483.

JOHN SMITH BURGESS, Bart. who lies buried in the parish Church, where a neat tablet has been erected to his memory, from a design by Mr. Wyatt.

GIDEA-HALL, or GEDDY-HALL, about one mile east from Romford, was anciently the seat of the Cooke family. The present mansion, a large square brick building, was erected by Sir John Eyles about the year 1720; but is now uninhabited. The ancient manor-house was begun by Sir Thomas Cooke, about the year 1467, who obtained a licence for fortifying and embattling it, but falling under the displeasure of the Court, he only completed the front: the remainder was erected by his grandson, the famous Sir Anthony Cooke, who entertained Queen Elizabeth here in 1568. Mary de Medicis, mother of Queen Henrietta Maria, was also entertained in this mansion, by Lady Cooke, his widow, the night before her arrival at London in 1638; and in the account of her progress through England, published the year following, is a view of the building. It was taken down when the new house was erected. The grounds were much improved by Richard Benyon, Esq. M. P. whose father purchased the manor in the year 1745; but, together with the house, are now suffering from neglect.

HARE-HALL, the seat of John Arnold Wallenger, Esq. was begun under the direction of Mr. Payne, in the year 1769, on the site of an old mansion. It is built with Portland stone, and consists of a centre, with two wings, connected by colonnades. The interior is fitted up in a handsome manner; and in the small Drawing-room are a few pictures by Angelica Kauffman, and other artists. The large Drawing-room, thirty-six feet by twenty, extends the whole length of the house, and commands some diversified and pleasant views. Mr. Payne has been justly celebrated for his staircases, and in the present mansion, as at Wardour Castle, and some other buildings, has displayed much taste and elegance in that part of the structure. The pleasure-grounds were laid out by Mr. Wood, of this county. In a sequestered spot, part of a *petrified Tree* is preserved, which was brought from the Isle of Portland.

AT HARE-STREET is the small cottage and residence of Humphry Repton, Esq. who has obtained considerable celebrity as
a landscape

a landscape gardener, and been much employed in laying out parks and pleasure-grounds. This gentleman has published two works on the principles of his own profession.

ROMFORD

Is a populous market-town, though, with respect to ecclesiastical affairs, only a Chapelry to Hornchurch: its civil jurisdiction is, however, distinct, and it is considered as one of four wards forming a separate parish, and was recognised as such, by an act passed for the regulation of the poor in the year 1786. An ancient *Ford*, over a rivulet, which flows through the west side of the town, is generally referred to as the origin of its name; Mr. Lysons* deriving it from the Saxon words signifying *Broad Ford*; and Mr. Lethieullier supposing it a contraction from *Roman-Ford*. Dr. Stukeley also expresses himself in favor of its Roman origin, and, on the authority of Richard of Cirencester, calls it the *Durolitum* of Antoninus.

The manor of Romford is first mentioned in a record of the year 1299, when it was held of Adam de Cretinge, by Henry de Winchester, a Jew convert. It afterwards passed by marriage to the Mowbrays, Dukes of Norfolk; but, on the decease of John, the fourth Duke of this family, without male issue, in 1477, it became vested in James, Lord Berkeley. It has since been held by various families; and was purchased, about the year 1759, by Richard Newman, Esq. grandfather to the present proprietor.†

Romford consists principally of one long and wide street, ranging along the high road: near the middle is the *Market-House*, and *Town-Hall*, which were repaired, in 1768, at the expence of the Crown. Here are three markets weekly. The general market, for corn, cattle, &c. is held on Wednesdays, under a grant of as early a date as the year 1247. On Tuesdays is a market for the sale of hogs; and on Mondays chiefly for that of calves. The quarter sessions for the liberty of Havering atte Bower are held in this town.

The

* Environs, Vol. IV. p. 183.

† Ibid. 184.

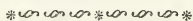
The *Chapel*, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and Edward the Confessor, consists of a nave, chancel, and north aisle, with a tower at the west end. It appears to have been built about the year 1407, at which period, the Pope's bull was obtained, empowering the inhabitants to bury their dead in an adjoining cemetery, instead of carrying them, as formerly, to Horncchurch.* In the east window of the chancel is a whole length on glass of EDWARD THE CONFESSOR "renewed," according to an inscription beneath, by the Chapel Warden in the year 1707. Against the south wall is an alabaster monument to the memory of SIR GEORGE HERVEY, Knt. Lieutenant of the Tower, who died in 1605, and his Lady; both of whom are represented kneeling. On the north side of the aisle is the monument of SIR ANTHONY COOKE, of Gidea-Hall, with the effigies of himself and his Lady in kneeling attitudes; and various shields of arms, displaying the intermarriages and alliances of the family. On this monument are several Inscriptions in Latin, supposed to have been furnished by his daughters, who were the most learned females of the age: and near it is a tablet, with the following "epitaph upon the death of the Right Worshipfull S^r Anthony Cooke, Knt. who died the 11th of June, 1576."

You learned men, and such as learning love,
 Vouchsafe to read this rude unlearned verse;
 For stones are doombe, and yet, for mannes bebove,
 God lends them tongues sometymes for to rehearse
 Such worth of wordes as worthiest wittes may pearse;
 Yea stones oftymes, when bloode and bones be rott,
 Do blase the brute which ells might be forgott:
 And in that heap of carved stones doth lye
 A worthy Knight, whose life, in learning shedd,
 Did make his name to mounte above the skie,
 With sacred skill unto a King he redd,
 Whose towarde youth his famous praises spredde;
 And he therefore to courtly life was called,
 Who more desyred in study to be stalled.

Philosophy

* Lysons' Environs, Vol. IV. p. 191.

Philosophy had taught his learned mynde
 To stand content with contrye quyet lyfe;
 Wherein he dwelt as one that was assynde
 To guard the same from sundry stormes of stryfe:
 And yet when persecuting rage was ryfe,
 His helping hand did never fail to stay
 His countrye's staffe, but held it up alway.
 No highe advance, nor office of availe,
 Could tempte his thoughts to row beyond his reache;
 By broont of bookes he only did assayle
 The forte of Fame, whereto he made his breache.
 With tyre of trewthe, whiche God's goode worde dothe teache,
 The wreathe he woore was dewe for his degree;
 He neyther rose by ryche rewarde nor fee;
 And yet although he bare his sayles so lowe,
 The gales of grace did speed his course so faste,
 That in his lyfe he did righte well bestowe
 His children, all before their pryme was paste,
 And linckte them so as they be lyke to laste.
 What should I say, but only this in summe,
Beatus hic qui timet Dominum?
 That only skill, that learninge beares the belle,
 And of that skill I thoughte (poor stone) to treat;
 That suche as lyke to use their learninge well,
 Mighte reade theis lynes, and therewith oft repeate
 Howe here on earthe his gyfte from God is great,
 Which can employe his learninge to the best;
 So did this Knyghte whiche here with me dothe reste.



In the Catholic times a Guild and a Chantry were founded in this Chapel: the revenues of the former were valued, on the Dissolution, at 4l. 10s. 2d. annually: the yearly endowments of the latter amounted to 13l. Morant says, that, when the inhabitants paid their tythes at Christmas, it was customary to treat them with a bull and a brawn; that the boar's head was wrestled for, and that the poor had the scraps: this custom has been discontinued. A *Charity School* for forty boys, and another for twenty girls, were established in this parish, about the year 1728. The population of this township, as ascertained under the late act, was 3179; the number of houses, 529. Adjoining the town, on the west,

west, are *Barracks* for six troops of cavalry, erected in the year 1795.

The manor of STEWARDS, in Romford Town Ward, became the property of the Quarles family in the year 1588; and in 1592, FRANCIS QUARLES, the celebrated author of the *Book of Emblems*, was born here. He was educated at Cambridge, and became Cup-bearer to the Queen of Bohemia, and afterwards Secretary to Archbishop Usher, whom he accompanied to Ireland. During the Civil Wars, his adherence to the Royal cause occasioned him a considerable loss of property: he was also plundered of his books and manuscripts, a circumstance which is thought to have accelerated his death, which occurred in 1644. Besides the *Emblems*, he wrote a comedy, called the *Virgin Queen*, and several poems. From the Quarles' the manor has passed through various hands, and is now possessed by different proprietors.

MARKS HALL, about two miles west from Romford, was the property of Thomas Urswyck, Recorder of London, who died in 1479, leaving his five daughters, co-heiresses. The next owner upon record, was Sir George Hervey, Lieutenant of the Tower, to whom Queen Elizabeth, in the year 1602, granted the right of cutting twelve loads of forest wood, twelve loads of rushes, a buck, and a doe, yearly; and free warren for this manor, in lieu of an extensive sheep-walk in the forest. His son, Sir Gawen Hervey, who afterwards bequeathed the estate to the *Mildmays*, was similarly favored by James the First, by whom "a good fat buck, and a good fat doe," were granted yearly for ever, out of Hainault Forest, to him and his successors, Lords of the Manor of Marks.* The Hall, now falling to decay, is a very ancient fabric, forming a quadrangle. The foundations are of brick, but the superstructure is of timber and plaster; at two opposite angles is a square brick tower, embattled; the whole building is surrounded by a moat, the water standing close to the walls. This mansion has been uninhabited many years.

Near Chadwell Street, on the side of the high road, is a very large *Whalebone*, reported to have belonged to a whale caught in the

* Lysons' *Environs*, Vol. IV. p. 187, 651.

the Thames, and fixed in its present situation in memory of Oliver Cromwell; it having been taken the same year in which he died. Its original length was twenty-eight feet.

In the banks of the Thames, at DAGENHAM, a very destructive *Breach* was formed, by the violence of the wind and tide, in the winter of the year 1707. It was occasioned by the blowing-up of a small sluice, that had been made for the drainage of the land-waters, and being at first neglected, an opening was formed, in some places twenty feet deep, and one hundred yards wide. Through this channel the rush of waters was so great, that upwards of 1000 acres of rich land, in the levels of Dagenham and Havering, were overflowed, and nearly 120 acres washed into the Thames; where a sand-bank was formed about a mile in length, and reaching nearly half-way across the river. Various attempts were made by the land-holders to repair the breach; but, after several years ineffectual labor, the design was relinquished as impracticable. The danger, however, resulting to the navigation of the river, occasioned an application to Parliament; and an Act was obtained to continue the work, a small tax being at the same time laid on every vessel coming into the port of London, for the purpose of defraying the expence. The business was then undertaken by one Boswell, on a contract for 16,500*l.* but, after the trial of various schemes, he was found unable to complete the undertaking; and a new agreement was entered into with Captain Perry, who had been employed by the Czar Peter, in building the city of Veronitz upon the river Don. This gentleman commenced his work in April, 1718, at which period the breach had been worn into several large branches, like the natural arms of a river, by the force of the reflux water from the marshes on every turn of the tide. The longest of these branches extended upwards of a mile and a half, and was in some places between 400 and 500 feet broad, and from twenty to forty feet deep. By extraordinary exertions, by driving dove-tail piles in a particular manner, and by various other expedients, Captain Perry at length succeeded in stopping the breach; but not before the works had been *three* times nearly destroyed, and washed away, by the strength and rapidity

of the tides. The expence of this important undertaking amounted to 40,472l. 18s. 8½d. only 25,000l. of which was allowed by the original contract; but 15,000l. was afterwards voted, by Parliament, to Captain Perry, who was thus ungenerously left to defray a part of the charges, and without any remuneration for upwards of five years anxiety and care. Within the embankment is yet a pool of between forty and fifty acres, where the earth had been carried off by the tide; and near it is a small circular thatch building, called *Dagenham Breach-House*, kept by the subscriptions of gentlemen, who form parties to fish in the pool at the proper season. While the works were carrying on, a very extensive stratum of *Moorlogg*, or rotten wood, of various kinds, was found about four feet beneath the surface of the marshes. This stratum was about ten feet in depth, and appeared to consist of whole trees, and brushwood, with but very little intermixture of earth. Among the trees were many of yew, and willow; the former were mostly undecayed. Some oak or horn-beam was also found, together with large quantities of hazel nuts. Several stags' horns were met with lying above the *Moorlogg*.

The manor of HORNCHURCH was given to the Great Hospital of St. Bernard de Monte Jovis, in Savoy, by Henry the Second; who founded an HOSPITAL, or CELL, here, subordinate to that house, for a Prior, or Master, and poor brethren. Peter, Earl of Savoy, having built the House in the Strand, called the *Savoy* after his title, gave it to the brethren of this Hospital, which was suppressed, among the other alien priories, to increase the endowments of the New College, Oxford: to that foundation its possessions are yet attached. The *Church* is a spacious building, dedicated to St. Andrew.

UPMINSTER, a pleasant village, surrounded with respectable seats, was the property of the *Engaines* as early as the Conquest; but is now in the possession of the *Esdailes*. Peter Esdaile, Esq. has a seat, called GAINES, about three quarters of a mile north-east from the Church. The celebrated Dr. Derham, author of the *Physico Theology*, and various other works, was Rector of this parish from the year 1689 to 1735. UPMINSTER HALL

was a mansion of the Abbots of Waltham, who had a Chapel and cemetery here. It is built with timber, and commands some fine prospects over parts of Essex and Kent: the grounds are well wooded.

SOUTH OKENDON, at the time of the Domesday Survey, was part of the possessions of Geoffry de Magnaville; but, in the reign of Edward the First, it became the property of the *Bruyns*, one of whom was Chamberlain to that Sovereign, and married Isolda, the sole heiress to this estate.* In this family it continued till the year 1471, when being divided between Elizabeth and Alice, sisters and co-heiresses, each moiety became the property of their respective husbands; and each sister being three times married, the different manors passed through as many families. Elizabeth's third husband was Sir William Brandon, (Standard-Bearer to Henry the Seventh,) who was killed, by Richard the Third, at the Battle of Bosworth Field. This nobleman was father to CHARLES BRANDON, Duke of Suffolk, who is reported to have been born here in the mansion of the Bruyns. In the *Church* is a mural monument to the memory of SIR RICHARD SALSTONHALL, Knt. who died in the year 1601.

BELL HOUSE, in the parish of Alveley, the seat of the Dowager Lady Dacre, is a spacious edifice, standing in a pleasant park, about three miles in circumference, and abounding with fine oaks, and other trees. This mansion was built in the reign of Henry the Eighth, but was altered, and greatly improved, by the late Lord Dacre. The decorations are extremely neat, and were made from his own designs. This manor obtained its name from the Bellhus family, from whom it passed, by marriage, to the *Barretts*, who retained it for upwards of 200 years; and the last of whom, Sir Edward Barrett, Knt. was Chancellor of the Exchequer in the reign of Charles the First. Dying without issue, he bequeathed all his estates in this county to his cousin, Richard Lennard, Esq. an ancestor of the Lords Dacre. This manor possesses the peculiar privilege of excluding any person, however great in rank, from entering it in pursuit of game.

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PURFLEET

* Weever's Fun. Mon. p. 362.

PURFLEET is a populous hamlet, in the parish of West-Thurrock, chiefly inhabited by the workmen employed in the neighbouring chalk and lime quarries. At a little distance is a *Gunpowder Magazine*, erected by Government, and properly secured from fire and lightning. The powder is deposited in detached buildings, all of which are bomb-proof; so that an accident happening to one, could not effect the others.

GREYS THURROCK

ATTAINED its former appellation from the noble family of Grey, who possessed the manor for upwards of three centuries from the year 1194, when it was granted to Henry de Grey, by Richard the First. The town principally consists of one irregular street, situated on a small creek from the Thames, and which is navigable for hoys, and vessels of small burthen. The market is chiefly for the sale of corn, and is much frequented. The *Church*, dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul, is built in the form of a Cross, with a tower on the north side. The houses in this town, as returned under the population act, amounted to 83; the inhabitants to 677.

In the parishes of CHADWELL and LITTLE THURROCK, near the highway leading from Stafford, are various *Caverns*, or *Holes*, of unequal depths and dimensions, formed in the chalk, which here constitutes the upper stratum. Camden describes them as very artfully built with stone; and, from the drawing given by him of two of them, they appear to open from the top by a narrow circular passage, which near the bottom begins to spread, and communicates with subterranean apartments; each apartment being of a particular and different form. Dr. Derham, who measured six of these caverns, all lying within the compass of as many acres, describes them as of the respective depths of fifty feet, six inches; fifty-five feet, six inches; seventy feet, seven inches; eighty feet; and eighty feet, four inches. An horizontal passage is said to lead from *Cave Field*, at East-Tilbury, into one of the caverns. The origin of these excavations is uncertain;

tain; tradition has referred them to the Britons, but, by a most unwarrantable conjecture, assigned to them the appellation of Cunobeline's Gold Mines. The opinion of their having been the granaries of the Britons, as entertained by some modern authors, seems by far the most rational supposition. They are also called *Dane Holes*; and traditionally reported to have been used as receptacles, or hiding-places, for plunder, during the frequent incursions of the Danes into this Island.

WEST-TILBURY, so called to distinguish it from two other parishes in Essex, named Tilbury, appears to have been an episcopal seat of Cedda, Bishop of the East Saxons, who, some time in the seventh century, spread the Christian religion in this county, and built Churches in several places, but "especially in the city, which, in the language of the Saxons, is called *Ythancestre*; and also in that which is named *Tillaburgh*, (the first of which places is on the banks of the river Pant, the other on the banks of the Thames,) where, gathering a flock of servants of Christ, he taught them to observe the discipline of a regular life, as far as those rude people were then capable."* *Ythancestre* is supposed to have stood at the mouth of the river Pant, or Blackwater, but has been entirely swallowed up by the sea. Tilbury is now only a small village. Within the manor a *Medicinal Water* was discovered in the year 1727, about twelve feet beneath the surface of a small eminence, rising above the marshes. Its qualities render it extremely useful in hæmorrhages, scurvy, diabetes, and some other disorders. The marshes in this, and the contiguous parishes, are chiefly rented by the grazing butchers of London, who generally stock them with Lincolnshire and Leicestershire wethers, which are sent hither in September or October, and feed till Christmas or Candlemas; when they are conveyed to the Metropolis for sale.

On the banks of the Thames, in this parish, is **TILBURY FORT**, originally built as a kind of block-house by Henry the Eighth, but enlarged into a regular fortification, by Charles the Second, after the Dutch fleet had sailed up the river, in the year 1667,

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and

* Bede's Ecclesiastical History, Book 3. Chap. 22.

and burnt three English men of war at Chatham. Various additions have been since made; and it is now mounted with a great number of guns, and is strongly garrisoned. Some traces of the camp formed here to oppose the threatened descent of the Spanish Armada, in the time of Elizabeth, are yet visible.

The manor of CORRINGHAM was held of the Bishops of London, by the *Bauds*, as early as the reign of King John. Several of this family were renowned warriors. Sir William de Baud, who was Sheriff of Essex and Hertfordshire in the year 1375, obtained liberty to inclose within his park, twelve or twenty-two acres of land, of the Dean and Canons of St. Paul's, in consideration of presenting them with a fat buck and doe yearly, on the days of the Conversion and Commemoration of St. Paul. "On these days, the buck and doe were brought by one or more servants, at the hour of the procession, and through the midst thereof, and offered at the high altar of St. Paul's Cathedral: after which, the persons that brought the buck, received of the Dean and Chapter, by the hands of their Chamberlain, twelve-pence sterling for their entertainment; but nothing when they brought the doe. The buck being brought to the steps of the altar, the Dean and Chapter, appareled in copes, and proper vestments, with garlands of roses on their heads, sent the body of the buck to be baked, and had the head and horns fixed on a pole before the cross, in their procession round about the Church, till they issued at the west door, where the keeper that brought it blowed the death of the buck, and then the horns that were about the city, answered him in like manner; for which they had each, of the Dean and Chapter, four-pence in money, and their dinner; and the keeper, during his stay, meat, drink, and lodging, and five shillings in money at his going away; together with a loaf of bread, having on it the picture of St. Paul."* This custom was continued till the reign of Elizabeth, when the manor appears to have passed into another family, and has since had various possessors.

LANGDON

* Morant's Essex, Vol. I. p. 242. Dugdale, Camden, and Stow, are quoted as authorities.

LANGDON HILLS, the most considerable eminences in this part of the county, afford some extremely fine and extensive prospects, particularly to the south-east, south, and south-west. The whole vale of London, the river Thames, the Metropolis, and the hills and coast of Kent, as far as the Medway, are, in clear weather, displayed to the view, and compose a scene of almost unequalled beauty. On the north the ground is higher, and the prospects more confined.

The Church at EAST THORNDON, or EAST HORNDON, as it is frequently termed, is a small, irregular brick building, apparently constructed at different periods, and having a tower at the west end, strengthened by massy buttresses. The centre consists of a nave and chancel: the latter has an octagonal ceiling of wood, and is ornamented with carved shields of arms, roses, and other figures: on the south side are Chapels of the Tyrell and Petre families: in the former, on a flat stone, is a quaint Latin inscription, in memory of Sir John Tyrell, Knight, who suffered greatly for his adherence to Charles the First.

On the north side are also two Chapels, one of which is much ornamented, and contains an ancient mutilated monument, having the date 1400 on a rim of brass, most of which is worn away. This is supposed to have been erected in memory of the *Tyrells*, who were Lords of the Manor of HERON, in this parish. Another mutilated monument commemorates Sir John Tyrell, and his wife Alice, with the date 1422. The *Font*, a square massy stone, is carved with intersecting arches, and other ornaments. HERON HALL, the mansion of the *Tyrells*, was pulled down about the year 1790, with the exception of two round towers, which yet remain. A spacious farm-house, with offices, &c. have been built upon its site.

The manor of WEST THORNDON was the property of the celebrated family of Fitz-Lewis, previous to the year 1442, when Sir John Fitz-Lewis died, seized of this, with other large estates. In the reign of Henry the Seventh, John, his last male descendant, married Anne, daughter of Sir Robert Lovel; but had the melancholy fate to be consumed, with his bride, on the wedding night,

in a fire which destroyed the manor-house.* Ela, his sister, being heiress to his extensive possessions, was married to Sir John Mordaunt, who had given the King 1300 marks for her wardship. In the time of Queen Elizabeth, or James the First, this manor became the property of the Lords Petre, most probably by purchase, and has since continued in their family.

THORNDON HALL, the seat of Lord Petre, is situated in an extensive Park, on a fine eminence, about two miles from Brentwood, at the south-eastern extremity of an avenue leading from that town. This mansion was executed from designs by Paine, and under his inspection. It is built with white brick, and consists of a centre, and two wings, connected by circular corridors. On the north front is a small portico, supported by six Corinthian pillars, fluted. The *Hall* is a noble room, forty feet square; the roof is supported by eighteen columns, covered with a composition resembling marble, by Wyatt. In the *Dining-Room* are various portraits of the Petre family; Henry the Eighth, and Edward the Sixth, apparently by Holbein; James the Second; the Earl of Darnley, whole length; Joan of Arc; the Duke of Buckingham; and some others. The *State Bed-Room* contains a fine painting of St. Catherine, reading, and leaning on the wheel of Martyrdom. In the *Drawing-Room*, thirty-eight feet by twenty-six, are portraits of the DOWAGER LADY PETRE, and MRS. ONSLOW, by Cosway. The *Library*, a particularly handsome apartment, is formed over the East Corridor, and resembles a semi-circular gallery: it contains several models of cattle, executed by Garrard, for Lord Petre; and elegant busts of the Hon. CHARLES JAMES FOX; R. J. PETRE; and R. E. PETRE. The *Saloon*, sixty feet by thirty, is unfinished, but contains a great number of portraits. The *Chapel*, which occupies the right wing, is elegantly fitted up, and decorated with a fine painting of the Nativity, brought from Rome. The park and grounds are well stocked with wood; and many of the trees are of great rarity and value.

The parishes of West Thorndon and INGRAVE were united by Act of Parliament; on which, in the year 1734, a new Church was

* Morant's Essex, Vol. I. p. 213.

was built by Robert James, Lord Petre, grandfather to the present possessor of the estates and title. This is a plain brick structure, standing about midway between the site of the ancient churches. Two flat monumental stones of the *Fitz-Lewis's* were removed into it from Ingrave. On one of them, engraven on brass, is an elegant female figure of MARGARET FITZ-LEWIS, who was thrice married; her third husband was John, Duke of Exeter: she died in August, 1400, as appears from the remains of the inscription round the verge of the stone.

GREAT BURGHSTED, or BURGHSTED GRANGE, was formerly part of the possessions of the Abbey at Stratford Langthorne; to the Abbot and Monks of which the privilege of holding a market and fair here was granted by Henry the Third: the former, however, was disused even before Camden's time. After the Dissolution, Henry the Eighth granted this manor to Sir Richard Riche, from whose family it was purchased, in the year 1600, by an ancestor of Lord Petre, the present owner. In the *Church* are handsome monuments to the memory of FELTON NEVILLE, Esq. and JOSEPH FISHPOOLE, Gent. On the south side of the communion table is a small ornamented niche; and a second in the south wall. The north doorway has a pointed arch; in the spandrels of which, on each side, is an angel; one bearing a scroll; the other, a book. The outer moulding is terminated on the east side, by the head of a King; and on the west, by that of a Bishop: below the latter is an ornamented niche: a corresponding one on the opposite side has been stopped up. The number of inhabitants in this parish, as enumerated in 1801, was 1472; the number of houses, 250.

BLUNT'S WALLS, about one mile from Billericay, is the name given to some earth-works, which Morant describes as the remains of a ditch and rampart, including about four acres; part of which is inclosed in a farm-yard: the rampart is considerably above the level of the fields. Some artificial mounts, that were within the enclosure, are described, by the same author, as nearly levelled. He also mentions the discovery of various fragments of urns, *patera*, and other earthen vessels, about three feet below the surface
of

of a high hill near Billericay; together with Roman copper coins, and two silver ones, of the Emperors Trajan and Adrian. From these various remains, he infers this neighbourhood to have been the site of a Roman villa, or small station.

BILLERICAY, a chapelry to Great Burghsted, had the privilege of a market granted to it by Edward the Fourth, in the year 1476; and Camden describes it as a considerable market town: at present, however, it is undeserving of the name, the rise of the Romford and Chelmsford markets having deprived it of its trade. The *Chapel* appears to have been founded about the reign of Edward the Third: the tower is apparently of that age; but the body, a plain brick structure, is more modern.

INGATESTONE, a small village on the high road to Colchester, is supposed to have partly derived its name from a Roman Miliary, conjectured to have stood near the Red Lyon Inn; and partly from the Saxon *Ing*, a Meadow, thus *Ing-atte-stone*. Here was formerly a considerable market, which has wholly declined within the last forty years; but a very large fair for cattle is still held here, on the first of December annually. In the *Church* are several elaborate monuments of the Petre family, whose burial-place adjoins the chancel on the north side. Among them is an altar monument to the memory of WILLIAM, Lord Petre, and his Lady; on which are their effigies, finely wrought in Parian marble. Another splendid monument, composed of various kinds of marble, commemorates the abilities and virtues of JOHN, Lord Petre, son to the above, whose effigies, with that of his Lady, are represented kneeling. Near the village is an *Alms-House* for seven women, and three men, founded by Sir William Petre, in the year 1557, and endowed by him, to the amount of 90l. 13s. 4d. annually. The inhabitants of this township, as returned under the late act, was 645; the number of houses, 120. INGATESTONE HALL is a venerable, but irregular pile, standing near the village, in a low situation, and was the family residence of the Lords Petre, before the building of their present mansion at West Thorndon. The grounds are stored with fish-ponds. The manor of Ingatesone belonged to Barking Abbey; but was granted, by Henry the Eighth,

to

to the Petre family, in December, 1539, in consideration of the sum of 849l. 12s. 6d.

At SOUTH BEMFLEET, or *Benfleet*, anciently *Beamflete*, was a CASTLE, built by Hastings, the celebrated Danish pirate, and described, by Matthew of Westminster, as having deep and wide ditches. This fortress was taken, and destroyed, by the Great Alfred, in the year 894; and at the same time, Hastings' wife and two sons were made prisoners, and conveyed to London. The creeks entering from the Thames, round Bemfleet, are famous for producing good oysters.

Opposite Bemfleet is CANVEY ISLAND, supposed, by Camden, to be that mentioned by Ptolemy, under the appellation *Kewnos*. Its length is about five miles, and its breadth, two. It contains about 2600 acres of marsh land, chiefly appropriated to grazing sheep and cattle. Before the year 1622, it was usually overflowed at every spring tide; but, about that period, it was properly embanked. On this Island is a Chapel, and about fifty houses. Across the creek called Hadleigh Ray, is a causeway, leading into it from the main land.

HADLEIGH, called also HADLEIGH AT CASTRUM, from a Castle built here by Hubert de Burgh, Earl of Kent, appears to have been originally comprehended in the Honour of Raleigh, and to have belonged to Suene, being one of the fifty-five lordships in his possession at the time of the Domesday Survey. Henry de Essex, Suene's grandson, having been dispossessed of his estates for his cowardice in the Welsh wars, Hadleigh was granted to Hubert de Burgh, by Henry the Third, who, on Hubert's disgrace, again seized it, and, in 1268, committed the custody of the Castle to Richard de Thany. From this period, the estate was held of the Crown by divers families, till it was finally granted, by Edward the Sixth, to Richard, Lord Riche, from whom it has passed to the Barnard family. HADLEIGH CASTLE is situated on the brow of a steep hill, commanding a fine prospect over the estuary of the Thames into Kent. Though now almost a mass of ruins, and overrun with shrubs and brushwood, it exhibits strong traces of ancient grandeur. The area inclosed by the walls

is nearly of an oval form, measuring about 110 paces in length, and forty in width. The walls on the north and south sides are strengthened by buttresses; and the cement, which seems to have sea-shells intermixed, is almost as hard as the stones themselves. The entrance is at the north-west angle, between the remains of two towers; and near it has been a deep ditch, extending along the north side. The principal parts now standing, are two towers at the south-east and north-east angles; these are circular on the outside; but the interiors, each consisting of five apartments, are octangular. In the south-east tower, over what appears to have been a fire-place, are some thin bricks, disposed in the herring-bone manner. The inside of each tower has been cased with squares of chalk; a great part of which still remains. The thickness of the towers at bottom, is nine feet; the upper parts are about five feet thick. Hadleigh Church consists of a nave, and semicircular chancel, divided from each other by a large heavy arch. Most of the windows are small, and lancet-shaped: in the south wall are remains of several niches.

LEIGH is a small village on the coast, principally inhabited by fishermen, and possessing some trade from the convenience of its situation. The houses are ranged at the foot of an eminence, near the summit of which stands the Church: the tower is mantled with ivy. The prospect from this eminence is extremely fine. In the village is a small *Custom-House*.

PRITTLEWELL, a respectable village, is chiefly situated on the declivity of a hill, the summit of which is occupied by the Church. This is a large, and rather singular building, dedicated to the Virgin Mary: it consists of a nave, chancel, and south aisle, running the whole length of the edifice, and nearly of equal breadth with the nave. At the west end is a high tower, embattled, with strong buttresses and pinnacles: this, from its height and lofty situation, forms a good sea-mark. The roof is supported on octagonal columns, ranging nearly in the centre. About a quarter of a mile north from the Church was a PRIORY for Cluniac monks, founded by Robert of Essex, in the reign of Henry the Second, and dedicated to St. Mary. This House was at first
a Cell

a Cell to the alien Priory of the same order, at Lewes, in Sussex ; but was made denison in the reign of Edward the Third. On the Dissolution, its revenues were valued at 194l. 14s. 3d. annually, according to Dugdale ; and were then granted to the Lord Chancellor Audley, who conveyed them to Robert, son of Lord Riche ; since which, they have been possessed by various families.

SOUTHEND is a small village, pleasantly situated on the acclivity of a well-wooded hill, at the mouth of the Thames, nearly opposite to Sheerness. Within the last twelve or fifteen years, it has obtained some repute as a bathing place ; and though previously but little known, has been since advancing to importance. An Assembly Room has been erected for the use of the visitors, as well as a row of respectable houses for lodgings ; and a new Theatre is in contemplation. At a little distance from the village is a *Stone*, placed as a boundary mark, at the extent of the jurisdiction of the Corporation of London, over the river Thames.

At SHOE BURY, anciently called *Schoebirig*, *Sceobirig*, &c. the Danes are recorded to have thrown up some fortifications after their defeat at Bemfleet by Alfred. "Large traces of the Danish works still remain, and many urns have been found hereabouts, as if the Romans had been here."*

The ISLANDS of Rushley, Haven-Gore, New England, Potten, Foulness, and Wallasea, comprise the east end of Rochford hundred ; but, with the exception of the two latter, are not worthy of description. FOULNESS is the most considerable ; its circumference being upwards of twenty miles, exclusive of the tract called the *Saltings*, which is not yet embanked from the sea. It contains nearly 5000 acres, disposed into different farms. Near the middle of the Island is a small *Church*, originally founded as a Chapel of Ease ; the floods having frequently prevented the inhabitants from attending their respective places of worship on the main land. WALLASEA is about four miles in length, and rather more than one mile and a half in breadth. This, like Foulness, is divided into farms, and grazing grounds, occupied
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* Gough's Camden, Vol. II. p. 52.

by different persons. The soil throughout all these Islands, consists of a deep, rich, hazel-coloured loam, upon a fine sea sand, or silt ouze, or sea clay. The higher parts are mostly appropriated to the growth of corn, clover, mustard, and cole-seed. The lower parts, to the depasturing sheep, cattle, and horses.

ROCHFORD,

At the period of the Domesday Survey, was held by Suene, whose grandson, Robert of Essex, having forfeited his inheritance, this manor was bestowed, by Henry the Second, on Guy Fitz-Eustace, who afterwards obtained the name de Rocheford from this estate. His grandson, Sir Guy de Rocheford, had the privilege of a market granted him for this town, by Henry the Third, as well as other privileges, which were afterwards certified under a *Quo Warranto*, in the time of Edward the First. Since this period, the manor has passed through various noble families, and is now the property of Sir James Tylney Long, Bart. whose ancestor, Sir Richard Child, purchased it of Viscount Bolingbroke, in the year 1712.*

Rochford is situated on the Broomhill river, over which are two small bridges. The houses are mostly irregular, and ill-built.

The

* A very singular custom, connected with this manor, is the holding of what is called the *Lawless Court*: its origin is uncertain; but tradition represents it as arising from a conspiracy against the Lord of the manor, projected during his absence, and overheard by himself in his way home. As a punishment, he ordered that all the tenants on his manor should ever afterwards assemble at a certain hour of the night, on the same spot where the conspirators met, and do homage for their lands. The Court is held in the open air, on King's Hill, on the midnight of the first Wednesday after Michaelmas Day, and all the business is transacted in whispers; the minutes being made with a coal, in place of pen and ink. The Steward opens the court in as low a voice as possible; yet those tenants who neglect to answer, are deeply fined, and every absentee forfeits double his rent for every hour's absence.* The time of assembling is from twelve till cock crow: the parties previously meet at the King's Head in Rochford.

* Morant's Essex, Vol. I. p. 272.

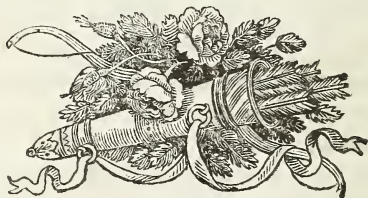
The *Market-House* is of timber, standing near the centre of the town, and has the date 1707. The *Church*, dedicated to St. Andrew, is situated about half a mile to the west: it consists of a nave, chancel, and side aisles; with a lofty brick tower at the west end. The population of Rochford, as enumerated under the late act, amounted to 1228; the number of houses to 183.

RALEIGH, now a very inconsiderable village, was formerly a market town, and the head of the Barony of Suene, who is reported to have built a CASTLE here, of which some important earth-works still remain. These consist of a mount, with an oval-shaped base, surrounded by a ditch; and this again by a rampart, and a second ditch, defended by other embankments, particularly on the east side. The summit of the mount is divided; the western part is circular, and upwards of 100 feet high; the other is somewhat of an oval form, and lower. The principal ditch is from thirty-six to fifty feet wide; the interior vallum, fifty feet high. In some places the works are much broken, and the ditches partly filled up. In the *Church* at Raleigh, against the south wall, is an ancient tomb, greatly mutilated, but displaying remains of very beautiful workmanship in the pointed style. The person whose memory it was intended to preserve, has been long forgotten: the upper part has been wholly destroyed. Raleigh is recorded in the Domesday Book, to have "a park, and six arpenni of vineyard, yielding in a good season, twenty modii of wine."

HOCKLEY, or HOCKLIE, consists only of a few cottages standing on a hill, the highest part of which is occupied by a very ancient *Church*, now fast mouldering into ruins. This fabric appears to be the same building mentioned by Simeon Dunelmensis, to have been founded by Canute and Turkill, in memory of the victory obtained over Edmund Ironside in this neighbourhood. Its situation accords with the description given by the above writer, who says, that Canute erected his *Church in monte quæ ASSANDUNE dicitur*; and the style of the more ancient part of the building corresponds with the age of that Sovereign. The tower is a low massive octagon, with strong buttresses; and in the inside are five thick columns, with slightly ornamented capitals, dividing the
nave

nave from a north aisle. The hill commands some fine views, especially to the north, where the river Crouch appears flowing through a rich tract of country. ASSINGDON, or ASHINGDON, where the battle was fought, is the adjoining parish; and here also the Church stands upon an eminence, from which, in a clear day, every other church in Rochford hundred may be distinctly seen. At CANEWDON, which adjoins Assingdon on the east, are the remains of a Camp, supposed to have been that occupied by the Danes; its area is of an oblong form, and includes about six acres. The vallum has been levelled, but the foss is yet visible: some part of it surrounds the manor-house, which is also encircled by a moat. Near the camp, in a field, called *Beacon-field*, to the north, a great variety of urns were found, at different times, during the last century.

BRADWELL LODGE, late the seat of the Rev. Bate Dudley, is situated nearly centrically between the rivers Blackwater, Crouch, and Colne, which here unite with the German Ocean. The Lodge is a very elegant building, and was erected, between the years 1781 and 1786, by J. Johnson, Esq. the architect of the Shire Hall at Chelmsford. On the summit is a beautiful Observatory, decorated with Ionic columns; which have been ingeniously contrived to form the chimnies of the whole fabric. In this neighbourhood are several *Decoys* for catching wild fowl.



GLOCESTERSHIRE.

PREVIOUS to the Roman Invasion, the inhabitants of the chief parts of GLOCESTERSHIRE, and OXFORDSHIRE, were distinguished by the appellation of *Dobuni*; a name supposed to have been derived from the British *Dwfn*, denoting inhabitants of low or vale districts. This opinion is corroborated by Dio, who calls them *Bodumni*, a term of similar import, if the letters have not undergone transposition; *Bodo*, or *Bodun*, according to Pliny, signifying deep, in the ancient Gaulish language, which Camden* identifies with the British. The particular tract inhabited by the DOBUNI, is described, by Whitaker,† as that part of Gloucestershire lying north of the hill of Wotton-Under-Edge, and east of the hills which bound the eastern side of the Vale of the Severn, and the low vallies of Oxfordshire on the north side of the Thames, down to the confluence of the Tame, and the country about that last river up to its sources in Buckinghamshire; their north-western and northern boundaries being the summit of the chain of hills on those sides of the two last mentioned counties; their eastern limit were the hills which extend at some distance along the same side of the Tame, through its whole course.

On the arrival of the Romans, the *Dobuni* appear to have been subject to their neighbours the *Cattieuchlani*; but about the year 45, they submitted to Aulus Plautius, the Proprætor, who placed garrisons among them, and, according to the well-founded supposition of Mr. Fosbrooke,‡ the district now called Gloucestershire was afterwards made a barrier country, and defended against the

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incursions

* Gough's Camden, Vol. I. p. 259.

† Hist. of Manchester.

‡ History of Gloucestershire, Vol. I. p. 6.

incursions of the Silures by a chain of forts. On the division of the Island into *BRITANNIA PRIMA, ET SECUNDA*, that part of Gloucestershire which lies south-east of the river Severn, was included in the former province; the other part was comprehended in the latter. After the subsequent division made under Constantine, the whole county was included in the province named *FLAVIA CÆSARIENSIS*.

It is evident, observes Mr. Fosbrooke, "from the ruins which have been at various times excavated, that this county, from Cirencester to Painswick, Bisley, Sapperton, Woodchester, Uley, Kingscote, and other adjoining places, was much peopled with Romans, or Romanized Britons; that Cirencester was the great Metropolis, or resort of pleasure and amusement; while Gloucester, and the hills about the Severn, were the great military positions; the last city, on account of the river, having peculiar advantages with respect to commerce."* The principal *ROMAN ROADS* that passed through this county, were the Ikenild Street; the Irming, or Erming Street; the Foss-Way; and the *Via Julia*. The *Ikenild Street* crosses Oxfordshire, and entering Gloucestershire at Eastleach, proceeds to Cirencester and Aust, the *Trajectus Augusti* of the Romans.† The *Irming Street* is supposed to have led from Caerleon, in Monmouthshire, to Gloucester, and thence up Birdlip Hill, to Cirencester, and Cricklade; proceeding from the latter towards Southampton. The *Foss-Way* enters Gloucestershire at Lemington, proceeding through Morton-hen-March to Stow on the Wold, passes on to North-leach, leaving Burton-on-the-Water about half a mile to the east; then crossing the Colne at Foss Bridge, it joins the Ikenild about half a mile east from Cirencester; hence it proceeds westward, and leaving Gloucestershire at the distance of about five miles, traverses the western side of Wiltshire in its course to Bath. The *Via Julia* led from Bath across the Severn into Monmouthshire, whence its course was continued through Glamorganshire to Caermarthenshire and St. David's. The direction of this road from Bath to the Severn, has occasioned

* History of Gloucestershire, Vol. I. p. 9.

† Ibid. p. 7.

occasioned some controversy; Mr. Leman, whose authority is considered as the most decisive, traces it from Bath by Weston Lane, whence leaving the Church of Weston to the north, and continuing straight through the Valley, now an obscure tract, it joins the present horse-road to North Stoke. Then ascending the hill, and passing under the British Post on North Stoke brow, it enters the village of North Stoke by the name of the Foss Road; but keeping on the edge of the hill, it descends with a sweep to the present turnpike road, which it joins about a quarter of a mile before it reaches Bitton: from Bitton it continues with the turnpike road as far as St. George's Church, then it crosses the flat ground, and joins the road at Redland. After passing Redland Court, it proceeds straight nearly in the track of a small road, leaving the present great road to the right, and ascending Durdham Down, crosses the road from Clifton to Redland. Here it is tolerably conspicuous till it falls into the turnpike from Shirehampton, which it crosses at the very spot where it is joined by the road from the Hot Wells. From this place it is still highly raised, and visible over the remainder of Durdham Down, and running between Durdham Lodge and Stable, continues under the wall of Snead Park, mounts the hill, and gently descending, enters "the great station of *Sea Mills*, or *Abone*. From Abone paved remains of the road still exist, where it passes a farm-house of Lord de Clifford's; it then runs through some inclosures, enters the Shirehampton road near the end of Lord de Clifford's grounds, and continuing between King's Weston Inn and the mansion-house, descends between that and the stables, and passes straight by Madan Farm, till it joins the banks of the Severn. Here was a ford into Wales; and part of the road on the opposite side of the river, to Caerwent, existed, still paved, a few years ago."*

Under the dominion of the Saxons, Gloucestershire formed part of the Mercian kingdom, and Winchcombe and King-Stanley are mentioned as residences of the Anglo-Saxon Monarchs. On the division of Mercia into five bishoprics, after the conversion of the

* Cox's Tour in Monmouthshire, p. 20.

Saxons, the greatest part of this county was included under that named *Wiccia*, and from this appellation the Dobuni were afterwards termed *Wiccii*. "The meaning of the name *Huiccii*, or *Wiccii*, has exercised the skill of etymologists. Dr. Thomas follows those who derive the word from *Wic*, which, among other significations, in Saxon, was used to express the creeks, curvatures, or windings, of river banks. But, besides that the Severn, in gliding through Worcestershire and Gloucestershire, has fewer windings than most other rivers, how unlikely is it, that the eastward part of Cotswold Downs, near Blockley and Iccumb, should have the name of Mons *Wiccissa*, *Wiccian Hill*, from the meanders of a river which glides at so great a distance from it! yet so we find it named in a charter *De Oswalde's Lawe*, ascribed to King Edgar. A learned writer, Carte, who has sifted the remains of British antiquity with great diligence, proposed another conjecture: he observes, that the vast forests which spread themselves over the greater part of Worcestershire, and run far into the adjacent counties, were in those times useful, chiefly for the excellent pannage or mast they afforded for hogs; whence, as the wealth of the inhabitants consisted in droves of these animals, the province itself might have its name from them; and from *hukh*, the British word for porcus, be denominated *Huicca*, or, in Latin, *Wiccia*; and its people, *Wiccii*."* Other antiquaries have derived the term from the *Wiches*, or briny-wells, salt being the principal article of traffic in this province in the early ages. At what time the county obtained its present name is unknown; but it appears that *Wiccia*, and *Glewancester-scira*, were both used about the same period. Gloucestershire continued part of the Mercian kingdom till the Union under Egbert.

Gloucestershire is bounded on the north-west by Herefordshire; on the east by Oxfordshire, and a small part of Berkshire; on the north by Wiltshire; and on the west by part of Somersetshire, the Bristol Channel, and Monmouthshire. It extends in length from the parish of Clifford Chambers, near Stratford upon-Avon,

to

* Fosbrooke's Gloucestershire, Vol. I. p. 12.

to Clifton, beyond the city of Bristol, in a south-west direction, about seventy statute miles; and in breadth, from Lechlade north-westward to Preston, in the hundred of Botloe, about forty statute miles. The figure of the county resembles an ellipsis, the north-east end of which is more acute than the other: its superficial contents are nearly 1,100,000 acres.* The boundaries are chiefly artificial. For local purposes, it has been separated into four divisions; these are sub-divided into twenty-eight hundreds, containing about 320 parishes, one city, and twenty-eight market-towns. The number of houses, as returned under the population act, amounts to 37,276; of inhabitants, 187,164: of the latter, 90,237, were males, and 96,927 females.† The whole county, with the exception of the Chapelries of Icomb, and Cowhonyborn, is included within the diocese of Gloucester; which comprehends one arch-deaconry, and ten deaneries. The number of representatives returned from Gloucestershire to Parliament, are eight; viz. two for the shire, two for the city, two for Tewksbury, and two for Cirencester.

The general aspect of Gloucestershire is greatly diversified, Nature having divided it into three districts of very dissimilar character, respectively named, the Hill, the Vale, and the Forest. The HILL district, including the Cotswolds, and the Stroudwater Hills, may be regarded as a continuation of the central chain proceeding south from Derbyshire, and passing through this county with a smaller elevation into Wiltshire; there swelling into the Salisbury Downs, and afterwards running west towards the Land's End, in Cornwall. The extent of the *Cotswold Hills*, from Broadway Hill to near Tetbury, is thirty miles; and from Birdlip Hill to Burford, about twenty miles: the area they include is estimated,

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by

* Rudder's Gloucestershire, p. 20.

† The houses and inhabitants of Bristol are not included in this estimate, as it has been the uniform practice of historians to consider that city as belonging to Somersetshire, though, from the increase of buildings, &c. the greatest part of it is certainly on the Gloucestershire side of the Avon.

by Mr. Marshall, to contain nearly 200,000 acres.* The surface is billowy; and the climature, considering the natural elevation of the land, unusually mild. The sides of the hills abound with springs; and almost every dip has its rill, and every valley its brook. The soil is generally a calcareous loam; mostly mixed with gravel and small stones, provincially termed *stone brash*. It varies, however, considerably; inclining, in some places, to a lightish loam: in others, it is of a binding, tenacious quality, and again, of a strong clayey nature, especially on the ascents of the hills. The average depth of the soil is not more than five inches; the sub-soil is a calcareous rubble. Stone of different kinds is almost every where found near the surface. The improvements made in this district, within the last fifty years, have been very great; the Downs, which formerly lay open, producing little else than furze, and a scanty covering of grass, are now, with few exceptions, converted into arable inclosed fields; and an easy communication has been opened between villages where formerly the roads were almost impassable. Corn, turnips, and cultivated herbage, occupy, perhaps, nine-tenths of its surface. Some little *sheep-walk*, and *cow-down*, still remain; and the bottoms and sides of some of the deeper vallies are in a state of meadow. Some patches of woodland, also, are scattered among these hills; but, in general, the proportion is but scanty. The estates are principally large, the landed property being in few hands; the tenures are mostly fee-simple. The size of the farms varies from 200 to 1000 acres: the larger farms are generally on leases of seven, fourteen, and twenty-one years. The primary object of the Cotswold husbandry is sheep; cattle are secondary, and comparatively few in number; horses, and swine, are subordinate, being kept merely for the use of the farm. The marketable crops are barley and wheat: the subordinate crops raised for the support of farm stock, are turnips, oats, peas, vetches, sainfoin, &c. The Cotswold sheep have

* Rural Economy of Gloucestershire, Vol. II. p. 5. From this work, and from Turner's General View of the Agriculture, &c. the principal particulars relating to the husbandry and appropriation of the land in this county, contained in the ensuing pages, have been derived.

have been long famous; and it is a prevailing tradition, that the Spaniards originally procured their breed of fine-wooled sheep from these hills, though this assertion is contradicted by several modern writers. The present breed, a polled, long-wooled, middle-sized sheep, has been much improved from the native stock, both in weight of carcase and quantity of wool; but the latter is somewhat coarser than it was formerly. The average weight per quarter, of wethers, when fat, is twenty-eight pounds; of ewes, twenty-two. The prevalent course of practice in the cultivation of the arable land, is to divide it into seven parts, which are cropped thus; sainfoin, turnips, barley, grasses, wheat, oats, peas, &c. The manure chiefly used, are ashes produced by sod-burning, dung, and the produce of the sheep-fold. The wheat is mostly sown in August and September; the produce is from twelve to twenty bushels an acre. The principal of the cultivated herbage is sainfoin, which is said to have grown on these hills about 160 years: in those parts where the sub-soil is of any considerable depth, it flourishes luxuriantly. In the ordinary course of husbandry, the ground is never ploughed more than once, excepting for turnips. The plough in general use is of the old heavy kind, requiring five horses, or oxen, to draw it: the oxen, as beasts of labor, are in more estimation than formerly; they are all worked in harness; not abreast, but single, at length. The Cotswold, or Gloucestershire *waggon*, is described, by Mr. Marshall, as the best kind of farm waggon he had ever seen. Its most striking peculiarity, he observes, is that of having a crooked side rail, bending archwise over the hind wheel; by which method, the general bed of the waggon is lowered without lessening the diameter of the wheels. The inclosures are chiefly stone walls, about four feet and a half high, exclusive of a coping of flat stones.

The *Stroudwater Hills* partake both of the Cotswold and of the Vale character; the southern extremity is the most various in soil and surface. The soil on the hills is principally a light loam: the modes of application, and rotation of crops, is nearly the same as on the Cotswolds. The woodlands are chiefly beech, but have much decreased within the last thirty years. This part of the dis-

trict is the chief seat of the woollen manufacture of Gloucestershire. The vallies, particularly in the neighbourhood of Stroud, possess considerable picturesque beauty.

The VALE district includes the entire tract bounded on the east by the Cotswold Hills, and the river Severn on the west; and is usually subdivided into the Vales of Evesham and Gloucester, and the Vale of Berkeley; the latter of which is separated from the former by a natural intersection, and is very different in produce, and rural management. The characteristic features of this district are nearly the same; though, if a difference is admitted, it will probably be in favor of the Vale of Berkeley. Its fertility is very great; and the produce abundant: in these respects it has been celebrated even from the days of William of Malmesbury, who describes it as "rich in corn, productive of fruits, in some parts by the sole favor of nature, in others by the art of cultivation, enticing even the lazy to industry, by the prospect of a hundred-fold return. You may see the highways clothed with trees bearing apples, not by the grafter's hand, but by the nature of the ground itself; for the earth, of its own accord, rears them up to fruit, and that excellent in flavour and appearance; many of which wither not under a year, nor before the new crops are produced to supply their place. Neither has any county in England more numerous or richer vineyards; or which yields grapes more abundantly, or of better flavour; as the wine is but little inferior to that of France in sweetness. The villages are very thick, the churches handsome, and the towns populous, and many."

The *Vale of Evesham*, comprehending a considerable portion of Worcestershire, belongs to the Avon, being included between that river and the Cotswold Hills, extending southward to Campden and Morley; and following the Avon eastward to Stratford. In respect of situation, climature, surface, soil, produce, and management, it may be considered as a continuation of the Vale of Gloucester;* the same description will therefore be sufficient for both vales.

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* Marshall's Gloucestershire, Vol. I. p. 9. Ibid. p. 10.

The *Vale of Gloucester*, in its outline, is "somewhat semicircular; the river Severn being the chord, and the surrounding hills the arch; the towns of Gloucester, Tewksbury, and Cheltenham, forming a triangle within its area." Its extent, from north to south, is about fifteen miles; and from east to west, between seven and eight; its superficial contents may be estimated at 50,000 or 60,000 acres. The seasons are a week or ten days later than on the opposite side of the Severn; probably from the proximity of the Cotswolds, which occasion a continued supply of coolness and moisture. The soil is mostly a deep rich loam; but varies in many places to the light and sandy kinds: the subsoil is generally very retentive of water, especially towards the middle of the Vale, where it appears to be composed, alternately, of stone and clay, in thin strata: the more genial parts are those adjacent to Gloucester, Tewksbury, and Evesham. A very considerable portion of the land belongs to the Church, and is mostly let on leases for lives. In many of the townships the land is still open: where it is inclosed, the inclosures are chiefly formed by hedge rows: the hedge trees are principally elm and willow; in some few places, the oak, the ash, and the maple, are seen. The plantations in the Vale consist wholly of fruit trees. The farms are, in general, small; hardly any exceeding 300 acres; and the rents but of very few, amounting to more than 200*l*. The land is appropriated into arable, meadow, and pasture; the grand objects of the husbandry being the growth of corn; breeding, and fattening; and the making of cheese. The ancient system, pursued in cultivating the arable lands, has been much improved of late years; the course now practised on the most productive farms, being fallow; barley; beans, or clover; and wheat. Some extensive common fields, in the neighbourhood of Gloucester, have been cropped, under an extraordinary course of management, year after year, during a century, or, perhaps centuries, without one intervening whole year's fallow: hence they are called, *Every Year's Land*.* Here, as in the Cotswolds, the tillage is not abundant; the number of ploughings being seldom more than six in four

* Marshall's Gloucestershire, Vol. I. p. 65.

four years. The arable lands are, nearly without exception, in ridges; some of them so much elevated, that it has been proverbially, though hyperbolically, observed, that men mounted on horseback, and riding in the furrows, could not see each other. The general height, however, seldom exceeds two feet, or two feet and a half; the common width is about eight yards. The real origin of these ridges is uncertain; but the popular opinion is, that the soil was thus thrown into heaps to increase the quantity of surface.* Marl, dung, and slightly calcareous clays, are used as manures: in some few places, the dung is mixed with mould. The cone and Lammas wheats are the species generally cultivated: the time of sowing is in November and December. The wheat is universally *hoed*; an operation that may be regarded as one of the most valuable improvements in agriculture: when cut, it is bound up in sheaves remarkably small. The medium produce per acre is eighteen bushels. The grass lands are indebted, for a considerable portion of their fertility, to their situation near the Severn, or on the banks of rivulets, by the water of which they are frequently overflowed. The soil of many of the meadows has, indeed, been mostly formed by the sediment deposited from the floods. The scythes used by the mowers of Gloucestershire are very short.

The *Cattle* of this district are of various species, and very numerous: the predominating kind, is that called the Gloucestershire breed; but the long-horned breed of Staffordshire, and other mid-land counties, has been introduced of late years, and appears likely to dispossess the original stock: the Welsh and Herefordshire kinds have also been brought into the county, chiefly for the purpose of fattening for the London markets: in the operation of fattening, great quantities of oil-cake are used. The *Swine* grow to a great size; those considered as the true Gloucestershire breed, are the tall, long, white kind; but the Berkshire, and a cross between the two breeds, are the prevailing species: the food of the store swine is chiefly

* Ridges are not *peculiar* to this Vale, but are frequent in many open field districts, where two crops and a fallow has been, as here, the established course of husbandry.

chiefly whey, mixed with butter-milk. The swine market at Gloucester is supposed to be the largest in the kingdom.

The *Dairies* in this district are not very large; the number of cows kept on each being seldom more than thirty, and most frequently below that number: in the Vale of Evesham they are larger, the cows on each varying, perhaps, to double the above numbers. The chief objects of the dairy, are cheese, calves, milk-butter, whey-butter, and swine; but of these the cheese is the principal. Gloucestershire *Cheese** has been long celebrated; though a considerable quantity of that sold under this appellation, has of late years been made in Wiltshire. The dairy-house is mostly large and commodious; a middle-sized dairy, measuring about fifteen feet by eighteen: the floor is generally laid with stone; the shelves are mostly of elm, or ash. The cheese vats are from fifteen to fifteen inches and a half in diameter; and from one and a half to two inches deep; the wood is invariably elm. The season of making includes about seven months, beginning in May, and ending in October: annotta is chiefly used for coloring. The cheese is principally purchased by factors, who live in or near the district; the same factor generally purchasing the produce of the same dairy year after year, and frequently without seeing it, or making a previous bargain. The principal cheese fair of the district is held on the twenty-eighth of September annually in Gloucester. The *Butter* of this county, like the cheese, is of superior quality: in making it, the milk, when cooled to about 80° of Fahrenheit's thermometer, is poured into shallow dairy vessels, locally termed *skeels*, till it stands at about an inch deep; the prevailing rule being, to "set it as shallow as it can be conveniently skimmed;" under the impression, that the shallower the milk is set, the more cream will rise from a given quantity. The cream is received into earthen jars, wherein it is stirred several times daily
with

* For the particular process employed in the making Gloucestershire cheese, we must refer to Marshall's *Rural Economy of Gloucestershire*, Vol. I. p. 286, *et seq.* and Vol. II. p. 108. The account of the operations is too long to extract, and too minute to admit of abridgment, without rendering the process obscure and useless.

with the cream slice. In churning, the cream of the Vale is very liable to rise; a circumstance attributed to its superior richness; when this happens, part of it is taken out, but replaced when the remainder is again gone down: the breaking is very particularly attended to; and when the butter is taken out of the churn, the milk is carefully pressed out by kneading the lumps with the hand: when the operations are completed, the butter is made up into half-pound pats, or prints, and neatly inclosed in green leaves, is packed in square baskets for sale. The farm buildings are chiefly of timber; consisting of frame-work, filled up with strong laths, interwoven in a peculiar manner, and covered with plastering.

The Vale of Berkeley, called also the Lower Vale, approaches, in its outlines, nearer to the segment of a circle, than to any other regular figure. The river Severn, as in the Gloucester Vale, forms an irregular chord; the hills to the south and east, a curve which is continued to the northern angle by the Painswick and Matson Hills. Its extent, from Aust Cliff to the foot of Matson Hill, is twenty-five miles; its medium width is somewhat less than four: the area comprehends about 50,000 acres. The surface is more irregular than that of the Upper Vale; the bottoms of the hills stretching in many places towards the river, and various risings appearing in other parts, particularly round the extremities. The margins of the hills are hung with beech; and the scenery is in general extremely fine. The soil is uniformly rich: in the more level parts, it is a deep fat loam, exceedingly fertile; excepting on the north of Berkeley, where it is clayey, and less productive. The land is principally appropriated to grass; and, with the exception of some common fields towards the upper angle, there is scarcely 1000 acres of arable land in the district. The rent is low, but the farms are chiefly held at will: the general rental is from 200l. to 300l. and 400l. per annum. The *Dairies* are about the same value as those in the Vale of Gloucester. The cheese is of superior quality: the kind called *Double Gloucester*, but locally, *Double Berkeley*, is chiefly made in this district: its peculiar excellence appears to depend as much upon proper management, as on the richness of the milk: May, June, and July, are the

the principal months for making this "thick cheese;" the season of making the thin cheese is from April to November. The quantity of cheese made in this district, is estimated from a thousand to twelve hundred tons annually: the annual produce from the milk yielded by each cow, is about 340 pounds. The whey butter made here is of good quality, when fresh; the aggregate produce is about 5000lbs. weekly.

The *FOREST* district is separated from the rest of the county by the river Severn; and is principally comprehended by the *Forest of Dean*, which was formerly particularly valuable, for the goodness and strength of its timber. Its oaks were so greatly renowned, that Evelyn observes, that in Elizabeth's reign, an Ambassador was purposely sent from Spain to procure its destruction, either by negotiation or treachery. It also abounds with beech; and the soil is considered as peculiarly favorable for the growth of the Stire Apple. Its principal Minerals are *iron ore* and *coal*: iron appears to have been wrought here even in the Roman times; and so early as the reign of Edward the First, seventy-two furnaces, for melting iron, are recorded to have been built here. In a survey made in the seventeenth of Charles the First, the Forest is estimated as originally containing upwards of 43,000 acres; of which above 14,000 were woodland. Several thousand acres have, however, been granted away, by different Sovereigns, and disafforested. The miners have distinct courts, and, like those of Derbyshire and Devonshire, are governed by their own customs.

The principal *RIVERS* connected with Gloucestershire, are the Severn, the Frome, the Wye, and the Isis, or Thames. The *CANALS* that intersect the county, are distinguished by the names of the Thames and Severn, the Stroudwater, the Berkeley, and the Hereford and Gloucester.

The *Severn*, the second commercial river in England, renders essential service to a large portion of this county. It enters Gloucestershire near the ancient town of Tewksbury, where uniting its waters with the Upper Avon, and pursuing a south-westerly course, it traverses a wide vale, which is rich in pasturage, and in some places abundantly wooded. About one mile above Glouces-

ter, it divides into two streams: these again unite a little below the city, forming the tract of land called Alney Island. Soon after this junction, its width and depth are increased by tributary rivers; and the character of the banks, and of the surrounding scenery, becomes more bold and picturesque. At a bend of the river near Framilode, branches off the *Stroudwater* canal, which unites the navigation of this river with that of the Thames. At the same place, the Severn taking a northerly course, forms nearly a semicircle of ten miles to the village of Fretherm, which is not above two miles from Framilode in a direct line. "The cliff, on which the Church of Newnham is situated, commands this immense semicircle with admirable effect; while the Cotswold range, terminating in the bold elevation of Stinchcombe Hill, bounds the vale to the east; and the undulating hills of the Forest of Dean close in upon it on the west, opening in various sweetly picturesque glens. The Severn, after this, studded with sails, and gliding between a range of fine pastures and villages, grows wider gradually till it receives the Wye near Chepstow, and the Avon from Somersetshire, thus forming the Bristol channel."* In the course of its passage through Gloucestershire, it receives the streams of the Upper Avon, the Chelt near Wainlode, the Leden near Over's-bridge, the Frome at Framilode, the Avon at Berkeley, and the Lower Avon below Bristol. The Severn has been a navigable river from time immemorial, and has borne on its liquid bosom vessels of different sizes, from the ancient British coracle to those of 150 and 200 tons burthen. Brigs, sloops, barges, and trows, are navigated as high up as Gloucester; but the larger vessels are rarely brought so high, from the difficulty of passing some parts of the channel, where the rocks sometimes appear at low water above the surface. Between Tewksbury and the sea, there is only one passage over this river by bridge, which is at Gloucester. The other passages are by boats, at the Upper Lode, a mile below Tewksbury; at the Lower Lode, six miles above Gloucester; at Framilode, twelve miles below; at Newnham, three miles lower;

at

* Skrine's Account of Rivers.

at Purton Passage, above Berkeley; at Aust, and at the New Passage. Some of these ferries being very precarious, and sometimes dangerous, it becomes highly expedient for strangers to make particular enquiries relating to the tides, and to calculate on the force and direction of the winds: when these are favorable, the passage at either ferry is perfectly safe. This river, particularly below Gloucester, has frequently overflowed its banks, and, by sudden risings of the tides, occasioned much damage to the contiguous country. In the years 1606, 1687, 1703, and 1737, the inundations are recorded to have produced great devastation. To guard against similar disasters, sea walls, pills, and other precautionary means, have been adopted; and a society, called Commissioners of the Sewers, have occasional meetings, to consult on, and give directions for, supporting the banks, &c. That portion of the river most subject to inundation, is divided into two parts, called the Upper and Lower Levels: and the parishes bordering the east side, with Aure on the west from Arlingham, where the Upper Level commences, to King's-Weston, where the Lower Level ends, are assessed certain sums, according to the number of acres in each parish, to defray the expences. "In each of the levels are ten or twelve pills, or inlets into the country, by which the surface water is carried off: and these are repaired by the adjoining proprietors of the lands."* The Severn is remarkable for its tide, which rolls in with a head of three or four feet high, foaming and roaring in its course, as if enraged by the opposition it meets from the strong current of fresh water, which seems to contend with it for superiority. They clash in such a manner as to dash the waves to a considerable height: this combat is called the *Hygre*, or Eager, probably from the French *Eau-guerre*, or *water-war*.† Sir Robert Atkyns accounts for this peculiarity, by observing, that the Severn receives its tides from the Great Atlantic Ocean, which pours in its waters with such considerable violence, as to fill the channel of the river at once.

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* Rudge's History of Gloucestershire, Vol. I. p. 27.

† Rudder's History of Gloucestershire, p. 46.

The *Frome*, or *Stroud* river, rising at Brimpsfield, flows by Stroud, through Stonehouse and Easington, towards the Severn, which it joins at Framilode.

The *Avon*, commonly, by way of distinction, called the *Upper Avon*, has but little connection with this county, serving only to divide a small part of it from Warwickshire at the northern extremity; and another small portion near Tewksbury, from Worcester-shire.

The *Wye* separates parts of this county from Monmouthshire and Herefordshire, and forms the grand natural western boundary to the Forest of Dean, whose noble wooded eminences constitute many fine features on its meandering banks.

The *Thames*, the most important of the British rivers, has its source in this county,* at a place called the Thames-Head, near the village of Cotes, about two miles south-west of Cirencester. Near this place the *Thames* and *Severn Canal* emerges from under ground, and receives a considerable quantity of water, occasionally, from this spring. The water is raised into the Canal by means of an engine, which is worked, like a wind-mill, by six sails, or fly-wings. By this contrivance, several tons of water are thrown into the Canal every minute. In the dry summer months, the spring-head is often without water for a long time; but in the winter season, and after rains, it sometimes becomes such a torrent as to overflow the neighbouring meadows for many miles round:

When the calm river, rais'd with sudden rains,
Or snow dissolv'd, o'erflows the adjoining plains.

The *Thames* has but a very short course in this county, before it enters Wiltshire, and receives the waters of the Churn at Cricklade, where it becomes navigable for small barges.

The *Junction* of the *Thames* and *Severn* was an object of favorite speculation with the London and Bristol merchants for many generations. In the reign of Charles the Second a bill was brought into the House of Commons to effect this purpose; and

Joseph

* See Beauties, Vol. I. p. 85.

Joseph Moxon, Hydrographer to the King, was employed to survey the ground, and to prove the practicability of the scheme. But the completion of this important plan was reserved for the present generation: it was effected by means of extraordinary science and perseverance, between the years 1783, when the act was obtained, and 1792, when the first vessel passed from the Severn into the Thames. In 1782, several opulent private persons of London (not of the corporation) engaged Mr. Robert Whitworth, an able engineer, to plan and give an estimate of this Canal. By the act passed in 1783, it was stated, that the sum of 130,000*l.* would be sufficient to complete the undertaking; but, in case of emergency, a further sum of 60,000*l.* was to be raised on mortgage. The citizens of London, confident in the success of the scheme, immediately subscribed the required sum; and so zealous were the London merchants in the cause, "that the connections of one mercantile house alone subscribed 23,000*l.* and several others 10,000*l.* each."* The *Thames and Severn Canal* begins at Wallbridge, near Stroud, (at the place where the Stroud navigation ends,) and proceeds in a devious course through the county to Lechlade, where it joins the Thames. This course includes a distance of thirty miles, seven and a half chains. "The general breadth of the Canal is forty-two feet at top, and thirty feet at the bottom. In many places where the ground is a dead level, it is considerably wider; the banks and towing paths being made entirely with the soil dug from the Canal. The Tunnel at Sapperton is nearly two miles and a half in length, being lined with masonry, and arched over at top, with an inverted arch at the bottom, except at some few places, where the solid rock being scooped out, rendered it unnecessary; the expence of this was about eight guineas per cubic yard. The boats are twelve feet wide, and eighty feet long; when loaded, they draw four feet water; and will carry seventy tons."† The union of the Thames and Severn, by means of this Canal, and its connection with the internal parts of the kingdom, by the Oxford and Coventry

Vol. V. Aug. 1804. K k Canals,

* Phillips's History of Inland Navigation, 8vo. 1803

† Ibid. p. 212.

Canals, form a line of communication with the Metropolis, of the greatest national importance. This will be readily admitted, when we take a comprehensive view of the intercourse thus opened, between many of the great manufacturing towns, and the capital. The water, in its course from Stroud to Sapperton, (seven miles, three furlongs,) is raised by means of locks 241 feet, three inches. Between the latter place and Lechlade, it falls 130 feet, six inches.

The *Stroudwater Canal*, which forms a part of the Thames and Severn Canal, encountered many obstacles before it was finally accomplished. Some landholders, and many of the millers, opposed it with great obstinacy; yet, in defiance of such opposition, an act was obtained in 1775, under the operation of which it was finished. As early as the year 1730, a plan was proposed, and an act obtained, to render the Stroudwater navigable; but this was never carried into effect. A new survey, and estimate, were made in 1755, which also failed. In the year 1759, four private gentlemen undertook a similar plan, and obtained an act of Parliament for it; but this scheme totally miscarried, and nearly ruined the projectors. Another project was conceived in 1774, and new plans were drawn, and estimates made, by Thomas Yeoman, Engineer, and other surveyors. By this survey, the old river, and all interference with its mills, were to be avoided, as that had hitherto proved the great obstacle to its completion. However, a combination of landholders and millers again checked the proceedings; and, after litigating certain points in the Court of Exchequer, and at the Gloucester assizes, set aside the operation of the act. A new one was, however, obtained in 1775, under which this long-protracted work was completed, and has proved of infinite importance to the clothing towns of Gloucestershire, and to the kingdom in general. "The course of this canal begins at Badbrook, at the edge of the town of Stroud, passes on to Cains Cross by Ebley, and across the main road at Stone Cross, and by Stone House near Rycott Mill, and to Lockham Bridge; then across the river near Whitminster Mill, and goes into the Severn at Framilode; its length being something more than eight miles,

and its fall 802 feet.* From the commencement of the Stroud-water navigation, to its completion, there have been no less than thirty law-suits instituted relating to it.

The *Berkeley Canal*, intending to open a navigable communication between Gloucester and the Severn at Berkeley, was begun in 1794, but has not yet been completed: the course surveyed is shorter, by twenty miles, than the usual navigation of the Severn.

The *Hereford and Gloucester Canal* was projected for the purpose of facilitating the conveyance of goods between the cities of Hereford, Gloucester, Bristol, and other towns. It was begun in 1792, but, from the want of water, and other obstacles, is not yet completed. The course it pursues is from the Severn, near Gloucester Bridge, across Alney Island, over a branch of that river, to Vineyard Hill, where it crosses the Leden by an aqueduct, and, turning the base of Lassington Hill, passes on to Rudford, and to Oxenhall. Here it enters a Tunnel, 2170 yards long,† and emerges at Boyce, near which it again crosses the Leden, and soon afterwards enters Herefordshire; and is terminated (for the present) at Ledbury. The rise of water between Gloucester and Ledbury, little more than seventeen miles, is 183 feet, 7 inches.

In enumerating the principal MINERALS of Gloucestershire, we shall commence with the *Metallic Ores*, of which those of lead and iron are the most numerous. Rudder mentions a report of a *Gold Mine* having been discovered near the village of Tainton, on the northern borders of the Forest of Dean; but no evidence of the truth of this can be obtained. Grains of *Silver*, in a vein of *Tin* ore, are also reported to have been found at Berry, in the parish of Syston;‡ but this, like the former story, rests only on vague tradition. *Lead* ore is found in many parts of the county,

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but

* Phillips's History of Inland Navigation, p. 218.

† At the commencement of the work, the Surveyor estimated the completion of the Tunnel at 1000 yards, and each yard at 7l. but when finished, it was found to be 2170 yards, and the real expence was more than 18l. per yard.

Rudge's Gloucestershire, Vol. I. p. 96.

‡ Manuscripts of Dr. Parsons, quoted by Rudder.

but not in sufficient quantities to defray the expences of working : it accompanies the lime-stone, and has been met with at Sodbury, Westbury-on-Trim, Yate, Tytherington, Deynton, and other places. The kind most frequently procured is of a bluish grey color, and foliated texture, both crystallized, and in masses. *Iron ores* exist in abundance, particularly in the Forest of Dean : the chief kinds found here, are crystallized iron ore, but little attracted by the magnet ; dark-colored ore, very rich, and diversified, called brush ore by the miners, striated, radiated, and tesserated ; pipe ore, consisting of small cylindrical columns, closely joined, issuing from a lump of the same kind of matter ; and smithy ore, a fine dark-colored gravel. Ores of this metal are also found at Iron-Acton, Bitton, Stone, &c. and, from the ochreous appearance of the water, seems to exist in the low boggy meadows near Twynning, and Standish Park ; and also at Robin's Wood Hill, near Gloucester.

At Lydney, and some other places, considerable works are carried on, both for smelting and manufacturing iron. The *Furnaces* employed in the " reduction of the ore, are between twenty and thirty feet high ; they are built of a gritty stone found in the Forest, capable of enduring a fire intense enough to melt and break down almost any other material. The shape is that of an inverted cone, about seven or eight feet in diameter at the top, to which the approach is by a natural or artificial bank. The *process* is begun by throwing into the furnace some lighted brushwood, then charcoal, with the ore and fluxing matters ; which are usually calcareous and argillaceous stones, sometimes quartz and flints. These materials are thrown in alternately, and the whole covered with charcoal. The blast is made at a hole, about three inches diameter, towards the bottom, by two large bellows, nearly thirty feet long, which are driven by water, and work by alternate movements. At an orifice somewhat lower, the dross, which separates from the metal in fusion, is let out : quite at the bottom is another opening, occasionally closed with a plug, through which the metal is let out, upon a bed of sand, to the length of thirty feet, every twenty-four hours. A large groove is formed

on the sand, which serves to convey the metal to several grooves on each side, smaller and shorter. In the former are cast the *sows*, and in the latter, the *pigs* of iron; both which are carried to the finery and chafery. On the hearth of the *Finery* is a large charcoal fire, excited by bellows somewhat smaller than those used at the furnaces. The ends of two or three pigs or sows are put into the finery together, where softening gradually, the metal is stirred and worked till it runs into one mass, or lump, which is called *half bloom*. This is taken out, and (while glowing with heat) is first submitted to the strokes of sledges, and afterwards of a large weighty hammer, moved by a water wheel. By these operations, the iron is beaten into a thick, short, square form; it is then again put into the finery, and worked to the shape of a bar, with a square nob at each end. In the *Chafery* it is reduced into bars, of the required shape and size.*

The most ancient works employed for the reduction of ore, were called *Blomaries*, or *Blomary Forges*; but the particular period at which they were first employed is unknown. The process of obtaining the iron was elaborate and tedious; and the operations being all carried on without the aid of machinery, the quantity produced was inconsiderable, as the blast was not sufficiently powerful to effect a complete fusion of the ores: hence the scoria, or *cinders*, found in large heaps in different parts of the Forest, contained a great proportion of metal, and, for a considerable time after the introduction of furnaces, were used as the principal materials in obtaining iron. The cinders were particularly useful in facilitating the fusion of the *Forest* ores; but the increased consumption having occasioned them to become scarce, other ores, more easy of fusion, and productive of metal, have been latterly introduced, and in some furnaces, have entirely superseded the use of the Forest ores. The scoria, or dross, that rises upon the surface of the metal in the furnaces now in use, has the name of *Scruff*, and consists of a vitreous substance, more or less mixed

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with

* Rudge's Gloucestershire, Vol. II, p. 18-19. Iron furnaces, on the present construction, appear to have been introduced some time in the reign of Queen Elizabeth.

with the impurities which arise from the ore in its fluid state. "The best is used as an ingredient in the manufacture of common green glass; for which purpose it is picked out, and reduced to a fine powder, by large stamping engines; after which, the lighter substances are washed away. Sometimes among the scruff, during the process of stamping, are found considerable quantities of granulated iron, and ragged lumps, which are called *shot*, and *scap iron*: these are separated by the stampers, and carried to the forges, to be worked up with the pig iron."*

Pyrites, or *Sulphuret* of iron, has been found in great abundance, and in various forms of combination, but has not hitherto been applied to any useful purpose. It is generally met with in beds of indurated blue clay, particularly on the western banks of the Severn, at Awre, Westbury, and Frethern Cliffs. *Lapis Calaminaris*, or oxyd of zinc, is found at Redland and Yate, and in small quantities, among the lime-stone rocks at other places.

Coal is particularly abundant in the Forests of Dean and Kingswood; from the latter of which the city and neighbourhood of Bristol are chiefly supplied, both for domestic and manufacturing purposes. This substance is, indeed, reported to be found every where within the "elliptic range of lime-stone rocks, which begin at Cromhall, and expand on each side till they again meet in Somersetshire." Upwards of 120 pits are contained in the Forest of Dean; but none of them have been carried to any vast depth, as the usual methods of freeing collieries from water, by steam and other engines, have scarcely been introduced. In the parish of Westerleigh, but particularly at *Coal-pit Heath*, very extensive works are carried on. The coal strata dip to the east, about one foot in twenty-five: the thickness of the veins varies from two feet to five. The coal is generally small, but burns well, and without cinder. The average depth of the pits is between thirty and forty fathoms; the deepest pits are about sixty fathoms. Abundance of coal is also obtained at Margotsfield, Bitton, and Pucklechurch: it abounds also at Syston, Iron-Acton, and Wick and Abston. In the latter parish, "the cliffs rise perpendicularly to the height

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* Rudge's Gloucestershire, Vol. II. p. 13.

of 200 feet and upwards, and consist of a series of beds of *Lime-stone* and *Petrosilex*, alternating with each other, exhibiting, towards the west, a vein of coal, fourteen inches thick; and another of lead, (both formerly worked,) with a mass of petrosilex on each side. In the centre of the glen is a bed of lime-stone, nearly 600 yards broad, lying between two beds of petrosilex, of nearly the same dimensions, all dipping to the north-west, in an angle of sixty feet with the plane of the horizon. In this are embedded lead ore, spathous iron ore, *caulk*, or *barytes*, and a large species of *anomia*. The division of petrosilex adjoining to this lead on the east, combines again with the lime-rock on the road to Deynton, and at this union becomes a mill-stone, or pudding-stone. By the side of the road, nearer to Bristol, under the surface of the red soil, are sometimes found a great abundance of geodes, or nodules, containing beautiful quartz crystals, with calcareous dog-tooth spar.”*

Lime-stone of superior quality, and in great abundance, is found at Cromhall, whence it extends to the south-east as far as Sodbury, and on the south-west to Aust Cliff, where it terminates: veins of lead ore, and *Sulphate of Stronthian*, occur in it at various places. Aust Cliff is “composed of two strata of clay; the upper of a blue, and the under of a red tinge; these rest upon a grey lime-stone rock; but embedded in the lower stratum, is one of *Gypsum*, of great depth and extent, continued through the counties of Monmouth and Glamorgan, and stretching as far as Tenby, in Glamorganshire; its dip is about twenty degrees to the south-east: two veins of sulphate of stronthian occur on this spot.” The rocks of Clifton are also composed of lime-stone, and vast quantities are annually burnt into lime. In this county, as in Derbyshire, large chasms, and fissures, of considerable depth, are found in the lime-stone strata, but none of them display the magnificence of those in the Peak. Pellucid *quartz* crystals, hexagonal, and terminated by detached pyramids, are found in the crevices of the strata at Clifton: these were formerly in consider-

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* Rudge's Gloucestershire, Vol. II. p. 308, 309.

† Ibid. Vol. II. p. 357.

able request, under the name of British diamonds. *Toad-stone* is said to be abundant in the neighbourhood of Thornbury.

Free-stone is found on the Cotswolds, and various other places. At Dursley is a stratum of *Tophus*, or *Puff-stone*, so soft as to admit of being worked with extreme facility, but becoming uncommonly hard and durable by exposure to the atmosphere. On Dagham-Down, near the surface, embedded in black earth, detached blocks of stone are found, of curiously grotesque and singular forms, occasioned by circular perforations: this stone is chiefly used for grottoes, and to ornament rustic buildings. Limestone, bearing a good polish, and resembling Derbyshire marble, is met with on the same Down. The "*Cotham Stone* is a natural, but rather scarce production, of great curiosity: it lies in a detached manner, within the surface of the ground. The upper side is full of nodules and bunches; the prominences on some of the stones resembling the interlacings of ivy, crossing each other. The blocks are sometimes two feet and a half long, and seven or eight inches thick; cut longitudinally, and polished, they exhibit the appearance of landscapes, trees, shrubs, and rivers: in general, they are used rough in the rustic work of gateways, and similar buildings."* *Grit-stone* is found at Frampton-Cotterell, and in several other parishes.

The FOSSILS of Gloucestershire are exceedingly numerous; and are found both on the hills, and in the Vale: in the latter, the *Cornua Ammonis*, and *Conchæ Rugosæ*, are particularly abundant. Frethern Cliff contains a variety of fossils; and many extraneous fossils, with bones of large animals, have been found in Westbury Cliff, embedded in an indurated blue clay, and sometimes enveloped in martial pyrites. *Asteriæ* are abundant at Pyrton, in Lydney parish, and under the adjacent cliffs, on the banks of the river: they are also found at Lassington, Dursley, Sherbourn, and Robin's Wood Hill. The *Asteria Columnaris* has been found in the quarries at Winrush; and also the *Seliquastra*, or Fossil Pods, as well as several invalvular petrifications. *Astroites*, striated, of a pentagonal shape, seldom exceeding three inches in length,
have

* Rudge's Gloucestershire, Vol. II. p. 336.

have been met with in abundance at Lassington, Wick and Abston, and other places: in the latter parish, Serpentine Stones, and *Belemnites*, are obtained. On the descent of the hill, from Cross-Sands to Sodbury, the banks on each side are full of *Belemnites*, ribbed *Nautili*, &c. and, in a quarry, near the entrance of that town, are various masses of Bivalve shells. Various *Coralloids*, *Anomie*, *Cochlea*, and other bodies, are plentiful at Sherbourn, Northleach, Dursley, and the adjacent parishes. In the fields near Aston, stones resembling a duck's bill are obtained, and others of a serpentine form. Fossils of the *Periwinkle* and *Oyster* species, are met with at Badminton and Didmarton; and in the grounds near the latter, *Thunder Stones*, or St. Cuthbert's beads, are frequently turned up by the plough.

The *Manufactures* of Gloucestershire are numerous. Woollens* of various descriptions; as clothing stuffs, blankets, rugs, carpets, stockings, &c. are made in different parts of the county. Iron is next in request, and bar iron, edge tools, wire, nails, and many other articles, are manufactured in large quantities. Near Bristol, are some extensive founderies; as well as different works for making brass and wire, vitriol, red lead, sal ammoniac, &c. At Gloucester, vast quantities of pins are made; and at Frampton-Cotterel is a considerable manufactory of felt hats.

GLOCESTER.

* "The city of Gloucester was famous for its cloth manufacture, many centuries ago: Brook-Street, situated upon Full-brook, was the place of habitation for clothiers, dyers, and shearmen; and even as lately as 1629, there was a company of clothiers in that city. It was considerable at Cirencester in the reign of Henry the Fourth, who granted a charter to a company of weavers there, which still subsists. It has flourished also, at different times, in various parts of the county; but Nature pointing out the most convenient situation for carrying on this manufacture, which requires plenty of water for driving the fulling mills, and scouring of wool, it has long seated itself principally on the borders of the little rivers and brooks in the parishes of Bisley, Hampton, Stroud, Painswick, Woodchester, Horsley, Stonehouse, Stanley, Uley, Dursley, Wotton-Underedge, and neighbouring places of less note. 'Tis there the master clothiers live, and the most curious operations of the manufacture is performed under their immediate inspection; but the women and children all over the county, are chiefly employed in carding of wool, and spinning of yarn." *Rudder's Gloucestershire*, p. 60.

GLOCESTER.*

THIS respectable CITY is situated in the Vale of Gloucester, on a gentle eminence, rising, on the east side, from the river Severn. The honor of founding it is due to the Britons, who named it *Caer Gloew*, the appellation by which it is yet distinguished in Wales; and Alfred of Beverly mentions it as one of the twenty-eight cities erected by them previous to the Roman Invasion. *Caer Gloew* signifies the *Fortress of GLOEW*, who, from what little can be collected concerning him, lived at the commencement of the Roman period of British history, and was Prince of the country of which this city was the capital: in ancient pedigree books, he is styled *Gloew Gwlad Lydan*; or *Gloew, Lord of the Broad Region*.†

Caer Gloew appears to have been subjected to the Romans by Aulus Plautius; and was afterwards made a station to awe the Silures; whose brave resistance to oppression offered a rallying point to their more feeble countrymen. Its inhabitants being thus increased by a Roman garrison, it obtained the privileges of a colony, and its name, assuming a Latin termination, became *Glevum*; and as such is mentioned by Antoninus, in his thirteenth Iter. On a monumental stone, first noticed by Camden, as being in the walls of Bath, near the north gate, was the following mutilated inscription, referring to this city:

DEC

* In the orthography of the words Gloucester, &c. we have omitted the letter *u*, in compliance with the prevailing custom; though the spelling Gloucester and Gloucestershire, is certainly more consonant to etymology. Sir Robert Atkyns, Marshall, and others, write the words without the *u*; Rudder, Lysons, &c. with it: Mr. Gough writes Gloucestershire for the county, and Gloucester for the city; though the former is evidently derived from the latter.

† The word *Gloew*, by some writers spelt *Glow*, *Gloyw*, &c. means clear, transparent, or pellucid; also bright, shining, and splendid: hence Camden, Rudder, Skinner, Minshew, and others, call Gloucester the *bright, fair, or splendid City*; not adverting to the historic evidence which makes *GLOEW* its founder. Gough calls it the *City of the pure Stream*, from the British *Caer gloyii iis*.

.....
 DEC COLONIÆ GLEV
 VIXIT ANN LXXXVI

The Decurio here alluded to, is supposed, by Gale, to have died at Bath: Horsley imagines him to have been rather a *Senator* in the *Colony*, than a *Commander* of ten horse in the army: the stone is now lost; though both the latter author, and Bishop Gibson, mention it as remaining in their days.

The exact situation of the Roman *Glevum*, was, probably, the tract of ploughed land called *King's Holm*, which adjoins the city on the north-east, and, in all old writings, is named *Regia Domus*; apparently, from its having been the site of the Prætorian Palace, and afterwards of that of the Saxon Kings. This conjecture is strengthened by the course of the great Roman road (or Irmin Street) from Cirencester, the *Duro-Cornovium* of the Itinerary, as it appears, when viewed from Birdlip Hill, seven miles distant; and also from the circumstance of the direction of the Severn having been altered before the year 909, and the port removed to its present situation: the ancient channel included the King's Holm, and though long filled up, may still be traced.

That King's Holm was within the limits of the Roman city, is evident, from the abundance of coins, of the Lower Empire, and the other memorials of Roman occupation, that have been discovered here at different periods. Many of these antiquities have been described* in the seventh and tenth volumes of the *Archæologia*; besides the coins, they consisted of burial urns, leaden and stone coffins, and various utensils. One of the urns is five inches and a half in height; and five inches in diameter, at the top. Among the other remains, is the fragment of an *Amphora*,† consisting of the neck and handles; a small brass lamp; an iron hatchet; a brass patera, with a handle, the latter the only part not corroded; a small ornamental bell; part of a pair of brass compasses; many brass beads, found with above sixty blue ones, of the "kind called Druids' beads;" and a *Statera*, or Roman steel-

* By Samuel Lysons, Esq. who has several of them in his possession.

† An earthen vessel, of a particular measure, for containing wine.

steel-yard, of brass, supposed to have been the first ever discovered in Great Britain. This is in good preservation; the hook or chain which suspended the weight, being the only part lost. "One side of the beam is divided into six parts, each of which is sub-divided into twelve: the only number marked on this side, is v. the other side has the numbers v. x. xv. and xx. inscribed on it."*

In pursuing the History of Gloucester, it may be expedient to keep its general, and its ecclesiastical history, distinct: without dwelling, therefore, on the traditionary tale of the establishment of Christianity in this city, by King Lucius, we shall observe, that it continued in the possession of the Romans, till the distractions of their own Empire occasioned them to quit the Island. Its government then reverted to the British Princes, under whose domination it continued till about the year 577, when, according to the Saxon Chronicle, it was surrendered to the West-Saxons, and was reputed as one of their principal cities: it was afterwards subjugated by the Mercians, who also obtained possession of the other parts of the county. Under the Saxons, its appellation was once more changed, and became *Gleau-cestre*, the undoubted etymon of its present name.

During the continuance of this city under the recovered sway of its native Princes, it gave title to an Earl, the gallant Eldol, who is recorded to have accompanied Vortigern to the fatal banquet at Ambresbury, in Wiltshire, where so many British Chieftains fell a sacrifice to Saxon treachery. The Britons were unarmed;

* Archæologia, Vol. X. p. 135. Mr. Lysons makes the following observations on the above numbers. "As the Roman pound consisted of twelve ounces, each of which contained six *sextulæ*, and twelve *dimidiæ sextulæ*, I had little doubt, that the six parts in the first graduation, were ounces, each of which was sub-divided into twelve *dimidiæ sextulæ*; and that the second graduation began at five ounces, and proceeded on to twenty-four, or two pounds. An experiment I afterwards made with the Roman weights, in the British Museum, confirmed me in this opinion; for they tallied as nearly as could be expected, when the loss which the statera might be supposed to have sustained in weight was considered. All the Roman steel-yards which I have had an opportunity of examining, are graduated in the same manner, making the highest number on one side, the *lowest* on the other, and proceeding upwards by fives, either of pounds or ounces."

armed; and Eldol is said to have caught up a stake, "and to have laid about him with such courage and effect, that he slew no less than seventy of his opponents; and having broke the heads, arms, and limbs of many more, got from them into Gloucester, his own city."* Hengist, the Saxon Chief, was afterwards defeated, (A. D. 489,) at Masebill, in Yorkshire, by Aurelius Ambrosius, assisted by Eldol, and other noble Britons. The accounts of the battle vary; according to some, Hengist was slain by Eldol, in the midst of the Pagan army; but Dr. Hutton, on the authority of Matthew of Westminster, relates, that he was made prisoner, and conveyed to this city, where Aurelius, and his nobility, assembled to determine his fate; and that, after some argument, he was put to death without the walls, as a consequence of his former baseness.†

The neighbourhood of Gloucester was frequently the scene of action between the Britons and the Saxons; the strength and consequence of the city rendering it an object of frequent enterprise. By these conflicts, its buildings were nearly ruined; and the whole place might have sunk into complete decay, if Wolphere, son of King Penda, had not enlarged and adorned it, about the year 679. This restoration was so perfect, that Bede informs us, it was esteemed, about the commencement of the eighth century, "as one of the noblest cities in the kingdom."

The early importance of this city is evinced by its having been the residence of various Saxon Monarchs; and hence it was denominated a Royal city, as it is expressly termed in a grant made by King Edgar to the monks of Worcester, dated at Gloucester, in the year 964. By this Monarch a battle was fought here with the Danes, who had twice plundered the city in the times of his predecessors, and who again ravaged, and partly consumed it by fire, during the reign of his son Ethelred.

After the decisive battle,‡ between Canute and Edmund Ironside, the latter retreated into this city: and here also Edward the Confessor

* Rudder's Gloucestershire, p. 93.

† The Saxon Historians state, that Hengist died a natural death.

‡ See pages 380 and 495.

Confessor frequently resided, and kept his court. William the Conqueror followed the example of the Saxon sovereigns, and often made Gloucester his place of residence; and in this city he generally spent his Christmas in great splendor, attended by the principal nobility and ecclesiastics of his kingdom. This custom was continued by William Rufus, after whose accession, in the year 1087, part of the city was burnt, by the adherents of his brother Robert. In 1093, Malcolm the Third, King of Scotland, was received here by Rufus with great haughtiness, on the occasion of the adjustment of the terms of a treaty of peace.

Henry the First held his court at Gloucester in 1123; and the same year summoned all his Bishops, Abbots, and Thanes, to attend it, for the purpose of choosing an Archbishop of Canterbury. Another great council was held here, by Henry the Second, in the year 1175, to determine on the most effectual measures for quelling the insurrections of the Welsh. On the death of King John, in 1216, the young Prince, his son, afterwards Henry the Third, was crowned in the Abbey Church, by the Bishop of Winchester and Bath, in the presence of Walo, the Pope's Legate, and the principal nobility and gentry of the kingdom. The ceremony was performed on the day succeeding the eve of St. Simon and St. Jude; the Prince previously swearing before the high altar, "to reverence God and the Church, to administer justice, observe good laws and customs, and pay a tribute of 1000 marks annually to the Pope." This Sovereign frequently resided and held his court and council at Gloucester, which Fuller observes, had more of his favor than even London itself, because "it was strong and loyal."

A memorable era in the eventful history of Gloucester, originated in a contest between Henry the Third and the Barons. That Monarch, in 1263, appointed Sir Maci de Besile, a French Knight, Sheriff of Gloucestershire, and Constable of the Castle within the city. The preference thus given to a foreigner, was violently resented by the indignant nobles, who immediately chose Sir William Tracy, a native of the shire. The Knight proceeded to exercise the duties of his office in holding a county court, but was suddenly

suddenly interrupted by De Besile, who entering with a party of the King's troops, seized the Knight, and, with circumstances of great cruelty, hurried him to the Castle, where he was committed as a close prisoner. After this outrage, the Barons deputed Sir Roger de Clifford, and Sir John Giffard, with their dependants, to besiege the Castle, for the double purposes of rescue and revenge; and, at the conclusion of a few days, an entrance was contrived, by some released prisoners, for the besiegers, who compelled De Besile to retire to the keep, and eventually to surrender himself prisoner, when he was sent to Erdesley Castle, in the Marches of Wales. De Clifford afterwards made his peace with the King, by resigning the town and Castle into his hands; but Giffard, true to the Barons, retired to Brimpsfield, where he assembled the most determined of his adherents, and made frequent sorties against Gloucester. The ensuing year witnessed the reduction of the town by stratagem: Sir John Giffard, and Sir John de Bolun, disguised themselves in Welsh cloaks, and, appearing at the west gate as Woolmongers riding upon two woolpacks, were admitted without scruple, when instantly alighting, and displaying their bright armour, they demanded the keys from the terrified porters, who resigned them to the exulting Knights, and their party, then on the point of arrival at the gate: but, although possession of the town was obtained, the Castle still belonged to the King's forces; and the Barons were much pressed by Prince Edward, who would have entered the town almost with them, had they not destroyed the Bridge across the Severn. This being repaired by the Prince, he assaulted the town at the west gate, but without success. Thus situated, he privately crossed the meadows, and was conveyed, by a boat, to the Castle. The sight of his banner displayed on the keep, was the first intimation the nobles received of his successful enterprise: they, however, commenced the siege with vigor; and Sir John Giffard, having burnt the Castle Bridge, prevented any further communication with the country. This circumstance, and the approach of a strong reinforcement for the Barons, under the command of Robert Ferrers, Earl of Derby, induced the Prince to visit his enemies unarmed, when he offered them

them acceptable terms, confirmed by his oath; and they retired, leaving him in quiet possession. The Prince revenged his former disappointment on the unoffending Burgesses; whom he imprisoned till they had ransomed themselves for 1000l.

In the year 1278, or 1279, a Parliament was assembled here by Edward the First, and several laws, connected with the statute of *Quo Warranto*, were enacted, and have from that period been known under the general appellation of the Statutes of Gloucester. Another Parliament was held here by Richard the Second, in the year 1378; and a third, and fourth, by Henry the Fourth, in the years 1403 and 1407. The last Parliament assembled here was summoned by Henry the Fifth, in 1420, and after a fortnight's sitting, was adjourned to Westminster.

The opposition of the Glocestrians to the Royal cause, during the reign of Charles the First, is very generally supposed to have operated fatally against that Monarch's interest throughout the kingdom: as early as the year 1641, they declared for the Parliament; raised a company of volunteers, which they added to their trained bands; procured cannon from London and Bristol, and repaired and strengthened the fortifications. On this, the King issued a letter, dated from Oxford, February 12, 1642, prohibiting any communication or intercourse between the inhabitants of the county and city, till the latter should return to its obedience. Previous to this prohibition, Prince Rupert had demanded the city for the King. Lieutenant Colonel Massie, the Governor, and his officers, returned for answer, that they would never surrender to a foreign Prince; but would, on the contrary, defend the city to the last extremity, for the King and Parliament. A message of similar import, was also delivered to the Prince from the Mayor. About the middle of February, Lord Herbert, son of the Marquis of Worcester, arrived before the town with 1500 foot, and 500 horse, raised in Wales. Major General Bret commanded the foot, and Lord John Somerset, the horse. The Major repeated the summons, but the garrison received it with contempt; upon which an encampment was begun at Highnam, within a mile and an half of the city, where the Welsh, expecting the arrival of Prince Rupert,

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pert,

pert, were contented to remain opposed to a feeble garrison, with not more than 100 horse, and even suffered it to receive a reinforcement of 200 foot, and dragoons. Five weeks had elapsed in this blockade, when Sir William Waller, having captured Malmsbury, issued orders to the Governor, Massie, to attack the camp at Highnam: at the same time Sir William crossed the river in flat-bottomed boats at Frampton Passage, with 2000 men, and advanced immediately to the camp, where every avenue appeared guarded by cannon, and an equal force. With these advantages, the Royal forces, panic struck, sounded a parley, and finally surrendered on terms of quarter. Many of the soldiers were liberated, upon taking an oath never to serve against the Parliament; others were received into the garrison; and the officers were either ransomed, or sent to Bristol.

The opportunity resulting from this success, was seized with avidity by the Governor, in providing money, provisions, ammunition, &c. in which the King's forces never interrupted him to any effect. However, on the tenth of August, in the same year, the King himself appeared before the city for the purpose of reducing it; to this he had been persuaded by his friends, contrary to his own judgment. His first act was a summons, requiring the surrender, under the promise of a general amnesty. This was read in the Tolsey only, by command of the Mayor. The King, accompanied by Prince Charles, the Duke of York, Prince Rupert, and General Ruthen, faced the city with 6000 horse and foot at the distance of about a quarter of a mile; and 2000 horse were ranged on another side within cannon-shot, the main body of the army not having then arrived. Under the influence of this military display, and within two hours, the time prescribed for a reply, the Governor and Magistrates sent a determined refusal to surrender.

The King received this determination with great temper, merely observing, in the hearing of the messengers, "That Waller was extinct, and that Essex could not come." The garrison then consisted of but 1400 or 1500 soldiers, badly provided with artillery, and still worse with powder, which is said to have amounted to no

more than 40 or 50 barrels: in addition to this, the works were incomplete, and of insufficient height.

On the return of the messengers, the Governor held a council of war, in which it was determined to destroy the suburbs. "By burning of the suburbs," it was observed, "the city is a garment without skirts, which we were willing to part withall, lest our enemies should sit upon them."

The King was equally active in preparing for the siege; for which purpose battering cannon were brought from Oxford by the Earl of Brentford: to those the assailants added a machine, invented by the Rev. Mr. Chillingworth, upon the plan of the Roman *testudines cumplutei*, which running upon cart-wheels, was rendered a kind of masked battery, by planks musket-proof, with apertures for four men to fire through, placed upon the axle-tree: this contrivance defended those who pushed it forward to the town ditch, where the wheels were fixed, and the fore part served as a bridge to rest on the breast-works, whence the assailants might enter the place.

Sir William Vavasor formed a junction with the Welsh troops just arrived from Worcester, on the north-west side of the city, after having broken all the bridges, and left a strong guard at the Vineyard: the forces under the command of General Ruthen, were stationed in the grounds behind Lanthony; and Sir Jacob Ashley's troops environed part of the eastern suburbs. Thus situated, the Royal army received a reinforcement of two regiments from Ireland, commanded by Colonel Myn and Sir William St. Leger. The King established his quarters at Matson House, on the south-east side of the city. On the south and south-east sides, where the fortifications were in the best state, the besiegers determined to commence their attack, because their own works were less liable to injury there from the springs; and in case of effecting a breach, the highest ground within the walls would be instantly obtained. The garrison, aware of this, redoubled their efforts to render an attack unavailing. Frequent skirmishes ensued; but the Royalists omitted every opportunity of acting with decision and effect, and the garrison profited by their hesitation: not more than 150 shot

were fired against the wall; and the besiegers appear to have been contented with merely shaking it. The probability that a breach might be effected, suggested to the garrison the necessity of additional works; they accordingly carried one along the Friars Orchard, and blocked up all the passages between that and the east port: they threw up another across the East-gate Street, and filled the trench with water; and intended to have raised it to the eaves of the houses, and planted cannon on the summit, if the siege had not been raised. In those arduous efforts, the garrison was assisted, even by the females and children, during twenty-six days: for so long the investment of the town continued.

The night of September 4th proved an auspicious one to the inhabitants of Gloucester. Two fires were discovered on Wainlode Hill; those were signals of approaching relief: the following day the siege was raised. This event was occasioned by the military talents of the Earl of Essex, who fought his way from London to Gloucester, with 10,000 men under his command, through a continued skirmish. On the 8th of September he entered the city, in which he found but two or three barrels of powder, and very little provisions. Such was the termination of a siege commenced with every prospect of success by an army amounting to nearly 30,000 men, who lost 1000 of their number, and killed but fifty of their enemies. Colonel Massie was rewarded by a letter of thanks, and a present of 1000*l.* and the officers and privates of the garrison received a month's pay as a gratuity: but the inhabitants suffered dreadful privations in the loss of their effects and houses; the amount of which are stated in a petition to Parliament for relief from the produce of the effects of delinquents: the number of houses destroyed was 241, exclusive of barns, stables, &c. and the value in money 26,000*l.*

Several weak and consequently unsuccessful attempts were afterwards made by the King's forces, who were always repelled before an investment could be accomplished. Nor were the efforts of bribery more fortunate. Sir Robert Atkins observes, that "The unfortunate siege of this city gave a stand to the King's victorious army, which being raised, as has been related, it turned the state of the war, and the King could never after obtain success."

In 1644, the city was rated 100l. weekly, besides the third part of the customs payable upon currants, for paying and recruiting the garrison. An ordinance of the Committee of Gloucester of the same year, decreed Massie, the Governor, an estate of inheritance of 1000l. per annum, which Atkins says was voted him from Sir John Wintour's estate. He left Gloucester in 1645, upon his appointment to the Lieutenant-generalship of the west, to the great regret of the inhabitants.

The ecclesiastical state of Gloucester, during the Roman and former part of the Saxon period of its history, is involved in much obscurity, from the want of authentic materials respecting the early progress of Christianity. In the *Memorial of Gloucester*, it is asserted, that the Christian faith was promulgated in this city in the year 189, by a Bishop and preachers, chosen by Lucius,* the first *Christian* King in this Island; and that he afterwards made it the seat of an Archbishop. The authorities for this relation are not sufficiently respectable to warrant belief; yet, from the general tradition, as well as other circumstances, there is a probability of Gloucester having been one of the earliest Bishop's Sees in England. Camden mentions an *Episcopus Cluvienses* in the list of British Bishops; and Eldad is said to have been Bishop of Gloucester in the year 490. Tanner imagines this first Bishopric to have been suppressed when the Saxons over-run the country about the year 570.

After the conversion of the Saxons to the Christian religion, Edwy, King of Northumberland, who had subdued Mercia, erected Lichfield into a Bishop's See, and included Gloucestershire within its diocese. Twenty-two years afterwards, in 679, this Bishopric was divided into the five smaller ones of Lichfield, Dorchester, Leicester, Hereford, and Worcester; to the last of which this district was annexed, and continued subject till the reign of Henry the Eighth; though Suffragan Bishops of Gloucester occur both in

* This King is traditionally reported to lie buried in the Cathedral at Gloucester, in the Church of St. Mary de Lode in that city, and in St. Peter's Church, Cornhill, London: the events of his life are as variously recorded, and even the age in which he lived is disputed.

in the years 1223 and 1534. This Sovereign, by letters patent, dated September the third, 1541, and afterwards confirmed by act of Parliament, erected "the city of Glocester, the county of that city, and all the county of Glocester, into a Bishoprick, with a Dean and Chapter, by the name of the Diocese of Gloucester; and ordained that such part of the then vill and county of Bristol, as formerly was in the Diocese of Worcester, should be from thenceforward in the Diocese of Gloucester for ever."

The Church appointed for the Cathedral of the new See, was that belonging to the ABBEY, founded by Wolphere, first Christian King of Mercia, and Ethelred, his brother and successor, between the years 680 and 682. This establishment was principally effected under the superintendance of Osric, their nephew, viceroy of the *Wiccii*, and afterwards King of Northumberland. Osric received from the King, the vill of Glocester, with other lands, and a large sum of money for the endowment of the new foundation; and adopting the advice of Bosil, first Bishop of Worcester, he admitted nuns, and appointed Kenburg, his sister, wife of Alred, King of Northumberland, the first Abbess. Immediately after her consecration, he completed his trust, by transferring the endowments to the Abbess and Convent, whose power he augmented by various privileges. Kenburg presided twenty-nine years, and was buried in St. Petronille's Chapel, where Osric was also interred in 729; but his remains were removed, by Abbot Parker, into the Chapel of Our Lady, and deposited under a monument of free-stone on the north side of the high altar.

Eadburg, or Eilburg, who had been Queen to Wolphere, succeeded to the Abbacy, and having presided twenty-five years, was buried near her predecessor. On her death, Eva, wife of Ethelred, King of the Mercians, became Abbess, and, by her influence, increased the possessions of the establishment, and obtained a confirmation of former donations. She died in the year 768, and was interred with those who had preceded her. After the decease of this Princess, the dissensions among the Saxon states occasioned the destruction of the Convent; and the nuns, having previously become the victims of a brutal licentiousness,

were entirely dispersed. In the year 821, Beornulph, or Bernulph, King of Mercia, refounded and repaired the Abbey for the reception of secular priests, on whom he bestowed part of the original possessions; and the remainder appears to have been given to them in 862, by King Burgred, by whom they were also exempted from all secular service. Canute, the Dane, in the year 1022, prompted by Wolstan, Bishop of Worcester, ejected these seculars, in order to introduce the more favored monks of the order of St. Benedict; who were, however, less acceptable to Wolphin, or Ulphine le Rue, Governor of Gloucester; who carried his animosity so far, as to put seven of them to death in 1033. For this offence the Pope obliged him to make atonement, by giving lands for the maintenance of seven others. The Benedictines were completely established previous to the year 1058, about which time Aldred, Bishop of Worcester, destroyed the decayed old Church, which stood near the Infirmary, and rebuilt it nearer the walls of the town.

The New Minster, as it is termed in the records, was burnt with the Monastery in 1087, or 1088; probably at the same time that the city was partly destroyed by the adherents of Robert, brother to William Rufus. Serlo, the third Abbot, began a new Church in June 1089; the first stone was laid by Robert, Bishop of Hereford; and on the completion of the edifice, in the following year, it was consecrated, and dedicated to St. Peter, by the Bishops of Worcester, Rochester, and Bangor. The Abbey was again destroyed by fire in 1101 or 1102, but the Church was saved. Serlo died in the year 1104, having much increased the possessions and inmates of the Monastery. On his death, Peter, the Prior, was chosen Abbot, and presided between seven and eight years, during which period he encompassed the Abbey with a stone wall; and, besides obtaining a confirmation of benefactions from King Stephen, enriched the Convent with a valuable collection of books.

In the year 1122, on the eighth of the Ides of March, during the celebration of mass, the tower is said to have been fired by lightning, and the whole Monastery consumed, with every article
within

within it, excepting a few books, and three vestments. This account, which is recorded in the Saxon Chronicle, and in a manuscript in Christ-Church College Library, Oxford, should be received with some caution, as no particulars occur of a re-building within any reasonable time from the date of the accident: indeed, the first notice of the decay of the Church occurs in 1222, when Henry Blond, the Abbot, "began to rebuild the tower of the Church, which *fell down*, and committed the management thereof to Helias, the Sacrist."^{*} It is highly probable, therefore, the injury done to the Church was exceedingly trifling. The Abbey was twice destroyed by lightning during the government of this Abbot, viz. in the years 1214, and 1223.[†]

Henry Foliot, Folet, or Folet, was elected Abbot in 1228, and proved a great benefactor to the Abbey. He constructed an aqueduct for supplying the Convent with water, besides building a handsome tower to the Church, and part of the vaulting of the nave. He also begun a tower at the west end, which was finished during the Abbacy of John de la Feldá, in the year 1246. About this time the Convent appears to have been indebted to the enormous amount of 3000 marks; as a means of liquidating which, the Bishop of Worcester forbade the reception of strangers, and exercise of the customary hospitality. The interference of Edward the First, who granted the Abbey his immediate protection, was an additional means of decreasing the debt. This Monarch erected a gate, which still retains his name, on the south side of the Abbey, on the site of the old one, called Lichgate.

Abbot Gamages, in 1303, pulled down the ancient dormitory, and begun another, which was finished in 1313: this Abbot obtained, on a fine paid to the King, in the thirty-fourth of Edward the First, a charter for regulating the vacancies of the Abbey, by which it was granted to the Prior and Convent as keepers till the Abbot received the temporalities: the payment for each vacancy was fixed at 200 marks. During the Abbacy of Gamages, William de Brok, one of the monks, received the de-

^{*} Willis's Mit. Abb. Dug. Mon. Anglic. [†] Rudder's Gloucestershire, p. 134.

gree of Doctor of Divinity in the University of Oxford: as he was the first person of the Benedictine order who had that honor in England, the ceremony was performed under circumstances of great pomp and solemnity. In the year 1300, the cloisters, belfry, and great chamber, with the adjoining buildings, were ruined by an accidental fire. Gamages had the address to rescue the Convent from their debts, and increased their stock of sheep to 10,000. He died in 1307, after having been a monk of St. Peter's sixty-two years, and Abbot twenty-three. His successor, John Thokey, or Tokey, was excommunicated, in 1313, for refusing to submit the Abbey to the Prior of Worcester's visitation during a vacancy in the See; but the interdict was removed within a year. The conduct of Thokey was highly instrumental in increasing the splendor and riches of his Abbey, for, on the murder of Edward the Second, at Berkeley Castle, he conveyed the body of the deceased Monarch to Gloucester without hesitation; though the Abbots of Kingswood, Bristol, and Malmesbury, were all too greatly intimidated to offer to remove it, lest the Queen, and her partizans, should be offended. The funeral of the King was conducted with much solemnity; and the offerings of the numerous visitants, who afterwards arrived at this city to pay their devotions to his relics, were so great, that a very considerable portion of the present Church was rebuilt with them. The south aisle was rebuilt by Thokey, who resigned in the year 1329; and about this period, Edward the Third permitted the Prior and Convent to compound for a vacancy of one year, on paying 100 marks, as a return for the expences incurred at his father's interment: all escheats, knights fees, and presentations, which occurred during that time, were reserved by the King.

John Wigmore, the next Abbot, rebuilt the Abbot's Great Chamber, the Grange at Highnam, and several smaller edifices, together with the north transept, or St. Andrew's aisle, which he completed within six years, with the oblations, or offerings, made at King Edward's tomb. He also commenced the building of the choir; near the entrance of which, on the south side, he was buried in the year 1337. Adam de Staunton, his successor, continuing

uing the works, erected the vault of the choir, the stalls on the Prior's side of it, and the *Vineyard House*, from the amount of the oblations made by Edward the Third, Queen Philippa, Prince Edward, and others. The King, with other gifts, offered a ship of gold for incense; and the Prince, a golden cross, containing a reputed fragment of the real cross within it. So considerable was the value of the oblations made about this period, that 1000 marks remained in the treasury after the expences of the improvements made in the Church, and other dependencies of the Abbey, had been defrayed. Staunton died in 1351, and was interred at the altar of St. Thomas, which had been rebuilt by his brother.

Thomas Horton, succeeding to the abbacy, made rich additions to the vestments of the Church, rebuilt the High Altar, the Presbytery, St. Paul's Aisle, and the Great Hall, which was used by the Parliament held at Gloucester in 1378, when the King and his court were lodged in the Abbey. It appears, from Rudder, that the laws of arms were regulated in the Refectory; that the Common Hall was used as the Chamber of the Lords; and the Chapter-House for the sittings of the Commons. Horton died in 1377, and was buried in the north transept.

Walter Froucester, or Froucestre, who was elected Abbot in the year 1381, obtained the mitre, with its accompanying privileges, from Pope Urban; and also permission for the Abbots to give the solemn benediction at matins, vespers, and table, provided no Bishop, nor Legate of the Apostolic See, was present. This Abbot completed the Cloisters which Horton had begun, and which are now the object of universal admiration: in his time, the records of the Monastery were fairly transcribed. He died in 1412, and was interred in a chapel, on the south-west part of the choir, under the arch of the tower. John Morwent, or Marewent, who was invested Abbot in 1421, rebuilt the west front of the Church, with the two opposite pillars at the west end of the nave, and added the south porch. During his abbacy, the town obtained the privilege of its Serjeants carrying their maces before the Bailiff within the Abbey precincts, where the King's writs and summonses were permitted to be executed, except upon the Abbot,

the

the members of the Convent, their servants, and counsellors. Marewent died in 1437. Richard Boulers, or Butler, his successor, went on a mission to Rome by order of the King; and, subsequent to his return, appears to have excited the anger of Richard, Duke of York, who imprisoned him at Ludlow Castle about 1450: in the same year he was advanced to the See of Hereford; and dying in 1458, gave his books to this Abbey.

Thomas Sebroke, the next Abbot, removed the old tower of the Church, and begun the present exquisitely proportioned and beautiful one; the completion of which, previous to his decease in 1457, he committed to Robert Tulley, one of the Monks of Gloucester, and afterwards Bishop of St. David's. Tulley inscribed the following lines under the west arch, which divides the nave from the choir:

*Hoc quod digestum specularis opusque politum
Tullii, hæc ex onere, Sebroke Abbate jubente.**

Sebroke died in 1457, and was buried in the chapel south-west of the choir, where his effigies, in pontificalibus, still remains.

Richard Hanley, the succeeding Abbot, began to rebuild the Chapel of Our Lady; but he dying in 1472, it was finished by his successor, William Ferley, the time of whose decease is unknown, but supposed to be about the year 1498. From nearly this period till the dissolution of the Abbey, considerable dissensions occurred among the monks on every vacancy; and a mandate was twice issued by the Crown, to compel the Prior, as President of the Abbey, to repress, and punish the offenders. Considerable animosity was also excited between the towns-people and the inmates of the Abbey, respecting the right of common, which appears to have been withheld by the Convent and its tenants: these contentions, like the former, were suppressed only by the interference of the Crown.

William;

* Thus translated by Bishop Gibson:

This fabric, which you see exact and neat,
The Abbot charg'd the Monk to make complete.

William Malvern, otherwise Parker, afterwards Doctor of Divinity, the thirty-second and last Abbot of this ancient community, was elected in 1514: ten years afterwards, he wrote a History of the Abbey, which has been printed together with Robert of Gloucester's Chronicle. In 1525, Cardinal Wolsey commanded a visitation of this Abbey: this was executed by his commissary, Dr. Allen, when the revenues were stated to be 1022l. 15s. 1d. ob. the Convent acknowledging themselves indebted to the Cardinal 40l. 17s. 6d. Parker adorned King Edward's Gate, and another now demolished; rebuilt great part of the Abbot's House, the present Episcopal Palace, and the Chapel on the north side of the Presbytery, wherein he was buried. After subscribing to the King's supremacy, he died in retirement with his family at Hasfield, in this county. The possessions of the Abbey were surrendered to Henry the Eighth, by Gabriel Morton, the Prior, in January, 1540, when the revenues were estimated at 1946l. 5s. 9d. per annum, according to Dugdale; but Bishop Tanner supposes this a mistake, as Speed, whose valuations generally exceed Dugdale's, through his inserting the gross sums, has recorded the yearly income at only 1550l. 4s. 5¼d.

The conversion of the Abbey Church into a CATHEDRAL has been already noticed: this circumstance was the chief means of its preservation at the Reformation; and to the honor of the inhabitants of Gloucester, it became the object of their peculiar care during the Civil Wars, after which they obtained a grant of it from Oliver Cromwell. Hence the Cathedral has been transferred to the present age, as nearly perfect in all its parts, with regard to its general construction, as it was left by the most favored of its architects.

This magnificent structure combines many interesting specimens of Saxon, Norman, and English architecture; and particularly of the latter. In this respect it is more instructive than some other cathedrals, which are either of contemporaneous building, or were adapted to one prevailing manner by the Prelates of the middle centuries after the Conquest; who combined the *Gothic* of their day, with the original Saxon, and changed the forms of the pillars and arches. Happily, also, for the admirers of ecclesiastical architecture,

chitecture, the eras of erection* of the principal parts of the fabric are known; and the characteristic styles of different periods can thus be satisfactorily ascertained.

The general face of this Cathedral is similar to most others; the interior consisting of a nave, choir, side aisles, and transepts, with a Chapel of Our Lady, and several smaller Chapels, or Oratories. From the intersection of the nave and transepts rises a high tower, and on the south side is a projecting porch. The roof is sustained on twenty-eight columns, which extend in two rows from the west end to the high altar, where the presbytery forms nearly a semicircular sweep: the transepts have no isolated pillars. The Chapel of Our Lady is, as usual, attached to the presbytery; and there are chapels in the north-east and south-east angles of the transepts and choir, with two others projecting in the sweep between those and the Chapel of Our Lady. The outline, or ground plan, of the Cathedral, is probably the same at present as designed by Bishop Aldred previous to the year 1089; and the *Crypt* remains almost as perfect as the masons left it. The architecture of this subterraneous and gloomy place is massy, and suited to the immense weight resting on the arches, which are turned upon huge short pillars, and strengthened by groins of proportionate solidity. The *Nave* is an interesting specimen of the style which continued to prevail for nearly two centuries after the Norman Conquest. The arcade of ponderous round columns, and the rows of semicircular arches above, impress the mind with ideas of the strength, solidity, and

* These have already been mentioned; but, to bring them more immediately under the eye, may tend to greater perspicuity. The lower part of the nave, the Chapels that surround the choir, and the crypt, are presumed to have belonged to the building erected by Bishop Aldred before 1089: the roof of the nave obtained its finishing and form in 1248. In 1310 the south aisle was begun; and part of the south transept was added in 1330. The building of the north transept and choir commenced about the same year; the latter was completed in 1457. Between the years 1351 and 1390, the elaborate cloisters were finished. The Chapel of Our Lady, and the centre tower, were the next additions; the former being built between the years 1457 and 1498; and the latter between the years 1457 and 1518.

and profound solemnity, which must have accompanied its original state. The architecture of the west end is very different from the other parts of the nave; and the vault is covered by intersecting ribs, and ornamented key-stones; but the remainder is of the plainest description, with three ribs only to each pillar; yet the key-stones are carved. On each side are eight massive columns; the arches between them are bounded by large mouldings, carved into zig-zags, and other ornaments: directly over each column, and at some distance, are a range of heads of various characters; some serene, and others terrific; these serve as brackets to clusters of short pillars, whose capitals display the most beautiful variety of foliage, on which zig-zag strings extend, serving as a base to other clustered pillars with equally elegant capitals; from those the ribs of the vault commence. The gallery windows, pierced through the wall above the arches, are divided by short thick pillars, and bounded by others, with zig-zag arches: a twisted string separates them from the clerestory windows. The north and south aisles of the nave are nearly in the style of the west end, with pointed windows, rich ramifications in the arches from the mullions, and filletted vaults. The arch of entrance to the cloisters from the north aisle, is most elaborately and exquisitely adorned by pillars, buttresses, niches, pinnacles, foliage, and panels, and the singular ornament of twisted pinnacles under the arch. In the south aisle, nail-headed mouldings are introduced as embellishments on each side of the windows. An advanced gradation of style is exhibited in the interior of the south transept; but the most perfect and ornamental degree is displayed in the Choir and Chapel of Our Lady.

The *Choir* is divided from the nave by a *Skreen*, designed by Kent, who, as Mr. Dallaway justly observes "was praised in his day for what he little understood." This, with the organ above it, a party-colored and gaudy instrument, are injudicious intruders, which obstruct the view of the grand east window. The same author observes, that "it is hardly possible to enter the choir, which includes every perfection to which the Gothic had attained

attained during the fifteenth century, without feeling the influence of veneration. In the nave

——— The arch'd and pond'rous roof,
By its own weight made stedfast and immoveable,
Looking tranquillity, CONGREVE.

immediately engages the attention, and, by its heavy simplicity, renders the highly-wrought ornaments of the choir more conspicuous and admirable. At the termination of the nave, under the tower, is the approach to the choir; and above the great arch is a window between two vacant arches, richly sculptured. On the north and south sides are the arches which support the vaulting of the transepts. Both these are intersected at the springing by a flying arch, with open spandrils, each spanning the space of the tower. The brackets are figures of angels, with escutcheons of the Abbey, Edward II. and the munificent Abbot Sebroke, the founder. Upon the exact point of these intersecting arches, is a pillar forming an impost of the great vaulted roof, which is then divided into sharp lancet arcades, and has an air of incredible lightness. From this part there are five more arcades, divided by clusters of semi-columns, which reach from the base to the roof; and the ribs are infinitely intersected and variegated with the most elaborate trellis-work,* composed of rosettes, which, although they are so thickly studded, are not repeated in a single instance.† Over the high altar are angels in full choir, with every instrument of music practised in the fifteenth century. On each side are thirty-one stalls of rich tabernacle work, carved in oak, little inferior, in point of execution, to the episcopal throne at Exeter, or those

* In Warton's Remarks on Gothic Architecture, contained in his edition of Spencer's Fairy Queen, he observes, that this beautiful trellis-work was thrown over the whole ceiling, like a web of embroidery, according to a plan given by Tully; but the slightest view of the vault will prove the assertion false, as it is at least thirty feet higher than the original building.

† "The cross springers are of very solid stone; and the vault which they support, of toph, or stalactitical stone, specifically lighter in a great degree than the other." *Dallaway*.

those at Windsor, erected in the reign of Edward IV. and allowed to be some of the finest pieces of Gothic carving in England."

"The two furthest arcades dilate about a yard from the right line, instead of forming a section of a hexagon, and are connected with the great east window, which is embowed in a slight degree, and occupies the whole space of the end of the choir." The dimensions are supposed to be greater than those of any other window in England: the glass occupies a space of seventy-eight feet, ten inches, by thirty-five feet, six inches. "The arch has three chief divisions, or mullions, terminating elliptically, the middle of which includes seven tiers of stained glass, now so extremely decayed and mutilated, as to appear like the tissue of a carpet." This magnificent window is in a sad state of dilapidation, and if not speedily repaired, must fall a victim to reprehensible neglect.

The present Altar-Piece, which is of the Corinthian order, and in a very bad taste, exhibits its usurping front to the exclusion of the rich tracery of the original High Altar, which is concealed from view, excepting from the side galleries of the choir.

"The pavement before the altar is composed of painted bricks, representing the devices of Edward the Second, of the Clares, and De Spencers, Earls of Gloucester, and of Abbot Sebroke; these are imagined to have been prepared for the kiln by the monks, who have displayed ingenuity, taste, and accuracy, in the scrolls, rebuses, and armorial bearings.

"The passages and oratories by which the choir is surrounded, are all of Saxon, or at least of early Norman architecture. The choir is constructed within them; the side walls, and low circular pillars, having been reduced, and the whole lined with facings of elegant pannels. These are placed within arcades of semi-mullions, resembling windows, which are open to the choir, from the galleries before mentioned. During the grand ceremonies of the Church, the females of superior rank surveyed them from above."* The pillars and arches of those aisles or passages are of such gigantic mould in breadth, (though not equally so in height,) that eternal duration seems to have been attempted by the architect.

Equally

* Dallaway's Anecdotes of the Arts,

Equally strong and durable are those of the *Whispering Gallery*, which is mentioned, by Lord Bacon, as being very remarkable. It is seventy-five feet in length, and forms five sides of an octagon; but the reverberation of sounds was most probably the effect of mere accident. On the left side are the remains of an altar, of rough stone, at which the Abbot, and others, are supposed to have stood to witness the celebration of mass within the Chapel of Our Lady; and on the centre of the wall of the passage, the following lines are inscribed:

Doubt not but God, who sits on high,
Thy secret prayers can hear,
When a dead wall thus cunningly
Conveys soft whispers to the ear.

In the gallery of the south transept is a curious and very ancient painting of the *Last Judgment*, which was discovered some years ago behind the wainscoting in the nave, when the seats were removed. It has probably been an altar-piece, and concealed at the time of the Reformation. Part of the north transept is inclosed by a wall pierced into a door, and two windows of great beauty; those afforded admission and light to the refractory inmates of the Monastery, who were imprisoned within this apartment, as the gratings still evince; it is now used as a vestry.

The interior of the *Chapel of Our Lady*, a continuation of the choir, is peculiarly rich and fascinating; but the effect is greatly injured by the introduction of the present Altar-Piece, which is utterly unsuitable to its situation. An unmeaning, opaque, stuccoed glory, under the inconceivable bright tints of the beautiful *East* window, is a wretched substitute for the elegant ornaments, pannels, and tabernacle-work, concealed by it. When the view from the nave was uninterrupted, the *coup d'œil* must have been infinitely splendid; and the eye dazzled by the brilliant colors of the painted glass, which represents our Saviour surrounded by Kings, Prelates, and Abbots. The figures are thirty-seven in number, yet every attitude is judiciously varied. The roof of this Chapel is one grand pointed arch, indented on the sides by the
arches

arches of the windows: a centre rib, with one on each side, extend east and west; seven others diverge from each column, and intersecting throughout the surface of the whole vault, form a vast variety of lozenges, radii, and angles, which are bound together by fillets: the variety of the rosettes, flowers, foliage, and scrolls, which cover the intersections, is truly wonderful. The side Chapels, or *Chantries*, have ceilings of profuse decorations: they each contain twelve circles, with centre flowers, whose intervals are full of tracery; between them are quatrefoils in circles, and the ascending arches are covered by nets of enriched pannels. The entrance to the Chapel of Our Lady is fronted by a most beautiful *Screen*, pierced into a number of cinquefoiled divisions, with ornaments of quatrefoils interspersed: a seat, or basement, exactly similar to a Tuscan pedestal, encircles the Chapel; the sides of the porch above this are partially pierced into windows, containing three rows of horizontal quatrefoils, making the same number of divisions in height: fragments of painted glass canopies are left in the ornamented arches: the extreme lines of these windows are formed by pillars into four narrow pannels, which were filled by eight niches; two of them are destroyed on the north side, by the mural monument of Sir John Powell; the pedestal and canopies are of the most exquisitely pierced foliage and pannels, but the statues are entirely gone. The ceiling of this grand porch has a cross of rich pendants, surrounded by the most elaborate ribs, judiciously intersected. The west end consists of one superb arch above the porch, the base of which is a string of eleven ovals, filled with foliage and blank shields; the sides have each a pannel and niche; and the architect has pierced the great space within the above out-line into forty-two trefoiled arches, of unequal sizes.

Behind the screen is an elegant Chapel or *Oratory*. Five columns on each side, three in a cluster, form the length of the Chapel; every column is adorned by two narrow pannels, each of which contains a cinquefoil pannel at its base, and three niches, with caryatide busts of angels, bearing scrolls, originally inscribed with the names of the saints above them; the minuteness and ele-

gance of the ornaments of this part of the design are extremely interesting. Here are six windows, three on each side, glazed; but one on each side the altar serve as screens to the chantry chapels before mentioned: the spaces under the windows abound in the delicately sculptured decorations peculiar to the florid style; nor are the windows less attended to; the divisions are very numerous, and those of the arches are again sub-divided in the most graceful manner. On the south side of the altar are three seats for the officiating priests; four buttresses, exquisitely fluted, and enriched with foliage, inclose and support three-sided canopies with indented trefoil arches, from each corner of which small clustered columns ascend to a cornice, forming eight arches, finely indented, and a diminutive colonnade; the ceilings of the canopies are covered with slender ribs, that arise from pillars not larger than a wand: the piscina is quite perfect on a beautiful pedestal. The floor of the Porch and Chapel is paved with painted tiles; but numerous ancient and modern coverings of graves have demolished a very considerable part of them; those that remain are generally much worn: several tiles form a circle filled with a cinquefoil and roses of yellow and dark brown colors; imperfect inscriptions yet remain of *Ave Maria mater pte Domine Jesu*; some of the figures are a crown, with I. H. S. others, broken shields of arms.

The greatest exterior ornament of this fabric is the *Centre Tower*, which, for symmetry and proportion, is equal, if not superior, to any other in England. During the fifteenth century, this part of the sacred building was the great object of attention and taste with ecclesiastical architects; and the different towers erected in this county, in Lincolnshire, and Somersetshire, are elegant specimens of the ornamental or florid architecture of that era. This tower is divided into two stories, and surmounted with four elegant pinnacles, perforated into numerous small arches, and terminated with foliated fineals. The summit is additionally embellished with open worked battlements. Each story or compartment of the tower has eight windows, richly ornamented with sculptured fineals. The buttresses at the angles are also embellished with attached

pinnacles, niches, and other ornaments. Between the south transept and porch are six buttresses, which are detached from the wall at bottom, and are ornamented with canopies, niches, statues, and purfled pinnacles. Each abutment had originally three statues; but out of the eighteen there are only five remaining. One of these, contiguous to the transept, represents a King, and is esteemed a fine specimen of sculpture. The *South* or *Entrance Porch* is equally profuse in ornament with the tower; and from the style of its pinnacles, perforated battlements, niches, &c. it appears to have been erected about the same period. The west front contains a large central window, lighting the nave, with two lateral windows, opening respectively into the north and south aisle. Beneath the former is a small entrance door-way, and another leading to the north aisle. In the spandrils of the first are the arms of the See, and the arms of England. Over this door-way is a gallery before the great window with a quatrefoil open balustrade. Attached to the central mullions of the window are two open abutments; and the top of the window is adorned with a profusion of tracery.

This Cathedral contains several interesting specimens of monumental sculpture. The tomb of EDWARD THE SECOND, erected by his son and successor near the high altar, is, probably, the most ancient piece of sculpture in England, which exhibits such perfection of art. On the tomb, beneath a modern canopy, consisting of three arches of two stories, interlaced with minute tabernacle-work, is a recumbent figure in alabaster, of the deceased Monarch, regally robed, and crowned. The head is supported by two angels: the right-hand bears a sceptre, and the left supports an orb or globe: on the side of the tomb are three arches in recess, and four smaller ones, all of which have had statues; on the spandrils of the former are six shields; on the rails of the north side are the arms of England, with those of Oriel College, Oxford, and an inscription dictated by the society of that foundation, who repaired this monument in 1737. The capitals of the two pillars, between which the tomb is situated, were then painted with a number of white stags on a red ground; a circumstance which

has given rise to a vulgar report, that the body of the murdered King was drawn from Berkeley Castle to Gloucester by those animals. Rysbrach, by whom this monument was visited with professional veneration, supposed it to have been executed by some sculptor who flourished in that age in the north of Italy.*

Another monument entitled to distinct notice, is that to the memory of ALDERMAN BLACKLEACH, and his wife, whose figures, in white marble, lie on a table tomb, dated 1639, and seem accurate copies of the portraits of Vandyck: they are evidently the work of a skilful artist. A third monument, deserving observation, for its design, and classic style, displays a group by Flaxman, erected to the memory of MRS. MORLEY, who died at sea, in child-bed. She is represented as rising from the waves with her infant in her arms, and conducted by two angels.

In the south aisle is an ancient tomb, commonly ascribed to HUMPHREY BOHUN, Earl of Hereford, and his lady: this Earl died in the year 1367; but Mr. Gough observes, in his *Sepulchral Monuments*, that "it does not suit *any* Earl of Hereford that we know; unless we suppose it to have been removed thither at the Dissolution from the adjoining Monastery of Lanthony, where so many of that noble family were buried; and this, from the form and style of the arch and its niches, does not seem likely." Between the north aisle and the choir is the monument erected, by Abbot Parker, to perpetuate the memory of KING OSRIC, with the following inscription on the wall above.

OSRICUS REX, PRIMUS FUNDATER HUIUS MONASTERII, 681.

In a Chapel nearly opposite, is a figure carved "in Irish oak," and inclosed by a wire lattice, supposed to represent the unfortunate ROBERT CURTOIS, or CURTHOISE, Duke of Normandy, and eldest son of William the Conqueror. This nobleman died in 1134, after an imprisonment of twenty-six years in Cardiff Castle, and was buried in the choir of this Church: he is delineated in armour,

* Might it not have been executed by Peter Cavallini, an artist who was brought into England by Edward the First?

mour, with the legs crossed. Many other memorials of the interment of Abbots, Bishops, and distinguished persons, are distributed through this edifice. The *Great Bell*, in the first story of the centre tower, is supposed to weigh 6500 pounds; round it are these words, ME FECIT FIERI MUNCUTUS NOMINE PETRI: its diameter at the bottom is five feet, ten inches.

The dimensions of the Cathedral and of its several parts are as follow. Intire length, inside, 423 feet: length of the nave, 171 feet; breadth, forty-one feet, two inches; height, sixty-seven feet, seven inches: breadth of the north aisle, twenty feet, ten inches; height, forty feet, six inches: breadth of the south aisle, twenty-two feet; height, forty feet: length of the south transept, sixty-six feet; breadth, forty-three feet, six inches; height, eighty-six feet: length of the north transept, sixty-six feet; breadth, forty-three feet, six inches; height, seventy-eight feet: length of the choir, 140 feet; breadth, thirty-four feet, six inches; height, eighty-six feet: length of Our Lady's Chapel, ninety-two feet; breadth, twenty-four feet, four inches; height, forty-six feet, six inches: height of the tower, including the pinnacles, 225 feet. The prospect of the surrounding country from the summit of the tower, is exceedingly extensive, and for rural beauty, scarcely to be paralleled.

The *Great Cloisters*, already mentioned to have been completed by Abbot Froucester, are the most elegant and perfect of the kind in England. The external west wall extends in a line from the first north pillar of the nave, and returns to a wall continued from the west side of the north transept. The sides and roof of the Cloisters are profusely embellished, and the windows are filled with mullions and tracery. Two semi-arches, in radii of pannels, springing from each side, meet in the centre, leaving lozenges in the spaces between each pair; those are filled by foliated pannels and circles. The arches of the windows are formed by others, which rest on clustered pillars: the number of mullions in the windows vary, but the divisions are enriched by cinquefoils; and the tracery in the arches afford a beautiful variety of oval pannels

and quatrefoils, all of which are glazed: the walls below the windows are variously adorned by pannels and large recesses. "On the north side of the Cloisters are several neat Lavatories near the site of the Refectory, which was the only part of the buildings belonging to the Cathedral demolished by the Republicans. These Lavatories consist of eight arcades; and opposite to them is the Sudatory, or place where the napkins were hung, consisting of two arcades. On the south side are twenty distinct places, or seats, where it is said the Monks used to sit and write before the invention of printing."* The Cloisters form a square, measuring 148 feet by 144; the breadth is nineteen feet; the height, nearly 118 feet, six inches.

The *College Library* is entered through a door in the east walk of the cloisters; the sides of the room have several strong Saxon pillars, and from those there are large ribs, which cross the plain pointed roof, *partially* ornamented next the great window by intersections of ribs: between each great pillar are niches separated by small Saxon columns, supporting semicircular arches. This room was formerly the Abbey *Chapter-House*;† but was converted into a Library by Sir Matthew Hale, and others, in the reign of Queen Mary; when the Mayor and Burgesses were appointed its guardians. In 1688, Mr. Wheeler, then Master of the College School, begun to stock it with books; it was, however, but an indifferent collection, till the late worthy Dean Tucker made a bequest to the library of a more valuable assemblage. The *College School*, intended originally for the instruction of youth belonging to the choir, and founded by Henry the Eighth, is held in an apartment over the Audit Room, at the end of the north transept.

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* Gloucester New Guide.

† The following persons, among others, were, according to Leland, interred in this building. Roger de Lacy, Earl of Hereford; Walter de Lacy; Roger Fitz-Milo, Earl of Hereford; Richard Strongbow, son of Gilbert, Earl of Pembroke; Paganus de Cadurcis, or Chaworth; Adam de Cadurcis; and Philip de Foye, Knt. Several of their names are yet recorded by inscriptions in black letter on the walls.

It is now under the direction of a Master and one Usher.* The *Lesser Cloisters* are supposed to be coeval with the ancient parts of the Church attributed to Bishop Aldred, but improved by the more modern mullioned arches: the *Registrar's Office* for proving wills, granting marriage licences, &c. is held at the east entrance: and at the west entrance is the *Episcopal Palace*; this has undergone much alteration under Bishop Benson, who expended large sums in modernizing it, particularly the great Hall, the end window, and the Chapel: a tablet of marble has been recently placed over the chimney in the former, which records a visit from their Majesties in the year 1788. The *College Green* is an irregular space, partially shaded by short avenues of lime trees, and surrounded by the *Deanery* and *Prebendal Houses*. The *Deanery* adjoins the Cathedral on the north; its exterior displays specimens both of circular and pointed arches. King James, says Rudder, resided in this mansion during the time he was at Gloucester, "and in the afternoon of the day after his arrival, touched 103 persons in Our Lady's Chapel for the King's evil."

Several Synods and Ecclesiastical Councils were held in this city during the five or six centuries immediately subsequent to the foundation of the Abbey; to which, in 804, Ethelrick, son of King Ethelmund, proved a great benefactor, at the request of a Synod then held. In the reign of the Conqueror, two Councils were held here, by Lanfranc, Archbishop of Canterbury; at one of which, (A. D. 1075,) Wulketul, or Wlketellus, Abbot

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* The reputation of this school has been long established; and for this the town is in a great measure indebted to the above Mr. *Wheeler*, who, possessing a strong and highly cultivated mind, contrived to invite his scholars to their studies, rather than force them: he taught them industry, by engaging their assistance in clearing the neighboring grove of its incumbrances, in order to form a play-ground; in this he constructed a mount of difficult access, with an *arbor vite* on the summit of perpetual verdure, and planted the cypress at the base; intimating the vale of death, and the rugged and steep ascent to the pinnacle of happiness. This will serve as a specimen of his fancy, which was aided by an exercise called the "combat of the pen," in which the twelve successful champions were rewarded by six premiums, bestowed by the suffrages of the whole school.

of Croyland, was deposed; and at the other, (A. D. 1081,) William de Carilepho was consecrated Bishop of Durham, in presence of the King, and all the Bishops of the realm.* In the Synod assembled here in 1085, the King's three Chaplains, Maurice of Lundene, William of Northfolc, and Redbeard of Ceaster-scire, were made Bishops. Another Synod was held in 1190, by William Longchamp, the Pope's legate; and a Provincial Council met here in the year 1233, or 1234, when the King, Henry the Third, by a writ dated at Hereford, prohibited them from discoursing "on any thing prejudicial to his crown, state, or dignity."

The *Walls* that surrounded Gloucester, are mentioned in an ancient Prophecy, attributed to Merlin; and tradition ascribes them to Cissa, the second King of the South Saxons. William the Conqueror caused them to be additionally strengthened, and embattled; and erected, or rebuilt, the gates on the north and south sides. They were again repaired by Sir Thomas de Bradestan, who, for that purpose, obtained a grant of the fee-farm rent of the city, in the nineteenth of Edward the Third. Leland describes Gloucester as "well builded of tymbre, and strongly defended with walles, where it is not well fortified with the deepe streame of Severn water." The walls were completely demolished soon after the Restoration; and the only memorial of the former strength of the fortifications now remaining, is the *West Gate*: this is embattled; and was erected in the time of Henry the Eighth. It stands on the banks of the Severn, at the end of a stone Bridge, of five arches, built over that river during the reign of Henry the Second. The Bridge connects, on the west, with a causeway of stone, called *Over's Causeway*, which extends through the low meads across the Isle of Alney, to the distance of about half a mile: in different parts of it, thirty-six arches have been constructed, which serve as Bridges to admit the waters to flow off the meadows.

The *Castle* at Gloucester, of which the last remains were destroyed a few years ago, to make room for the COUNTY GAOL, was

* Angl. Sac. p. 704. Symeon Dunel. p. 217. Lel. Col. Vol. II. p. 332.

was probably erected about the period of the Norman Invasion, as the Domesday Book records, that "sixteen houses were taken down for its site." Camden mentions it as being constructed of hewn stone; though in his time it was "for the most part decayed." This Castle was anciently held by the Earls of Gloucester, but afterwards became vested in the Crown. The keep had long been appropriated as a prison; yet, becoming ruinous, and being in most respects improper, Commissioners were appointed to erect a new Gaol; and a grant of the Castle lands was obtained from his present Majesty for that purpose. Soon afterwards, the building of the Gaol was commenced, from the designs, and under the direction, of Sir George Onesiphorus Paul, Bart. whose indefatigable attention to the interests of society, as manifested in the plan of this structure, and a code of laws drawn up for its government, merits the most unlimited approbation. The Gaol consists of three divisions, respectively named, the *Penitentiary House*, the *Bridewell*, and the *Sheriff's Prison*: these have all their distinct and appropriate regulations. It contains 203 separate cells; 164 for sleep, and thirty-nine for employment. At stated hours, during the day, the prisoners are allowed to enjoy the fresh air in a court-yard, 210 feet in length, and fifty-seven broad, having a colonnade at each end, to shelter them from bad weather; the same class of prisoners only are permitted to associate together. The whole internal economy is under the management of the Chaplain, Governor, and Surgeon, whose attention is regulated by certain rules, and who are themselves subject to the control of the county magistrates. This building* was opened for
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* "The great end of this prison is to produce the *reformation* of the offender; and the regulations that have been adopted for that purpose, are founded on the principles of prudence, lenity, and benevolence; and the accuracy with which they have been pursued, can challenge the most jealous investigation. *Solitude in dark cells*, is the highest punishment inflicted on refractory prisoners: in *light cells*, the second degree. In either of these, the prisoner is not allowed to have communication with any person, except the Chaplain, Surgeon, Keeper, and inspecting Magistrates. In the third and fourth degrees, confinement to the cell is part of the punishment; yet a certain time is allowed in the airing ground,

the reception of prisoners in the year 1791: the expence of completing it, and of four Houses of Correction, that were erected about the same time in different parts of the county, amounted to 34,873l. 14s. 4d.

In the city and suburbs of Gloucester were formerly eleven PAROCHIAL CHURCHES, but those only of St. Michael, St. Mary de Crypt, St. Nicholas, St. Mary de Lode, St. John's, and St. Aldate, are now standing; the remainder having been either destroyed at the siege in 1643, or since taken down. *St. Michael's Church* consists of two aisles of unequal dimensions, with a square tower at the west end: previous to the Reformation, here were three chantries. In this parish a *Blue Coat Hospital*, (so called from the habits resembling those of Christ Church, London,) in the Eastgate-Street, was founded by Sir Thomas Rich, Bart, who, in the year 1666, left a house and 6000l. for the purchase of lands, the rents of which, 160l. per annum, were to be applied for the perpetual maintenance, educating, and apprenticing of twenty boys. *St. Mary de Crypt* consists of a nave, side aisles, and transept, with a neat tower, having pinnacles, and other ornaments, rising from the intersection: the east end is also finished with pinnacles. Within it, among other monuments, is the tomb of SIR THOMAS BELL, Bart. who died in the year 1566, after having founded and endowed a neighbouring *Alms-House* for six poor persons. Near this Church are the remains of a *Monastery of Black Friars*, founded, about the year 1239, by Henry the Third, and Stephen, Lord of Harneshull. The site of this house, with
other

ground, according to circumstances. Fetters, not exceeding seven pounds weight, and handcuffs, are only used for contumacy, and in case of riots, or attempts to escape. The *penitentiary* or *convicted felons* are kept to hard labour; have their heads shaved; wear coarse and uniform apparel, with obvious marks, or badges; and immediately on leaving work, are locked up in separate cells for the night. Every offender who behaves, during confinement, in an orderly manner, receives a certificate of the same, with a sum of money, not exceeding three pounds; and as a further encouragement to good behaviour, if he continues one year in service after his discharge, and produces proof that he has done so, the Justices are empowered to allow him a further sum, equal to that on his dismission." *Rudge's Gloucestershire, Vol. I. p. 56.*

other lands, was granted to the above Sir Thomas Bell by Henry the Eighth, in consideration of the sum of 240l. 5s. 4d. A considerable part of the Friars' Church, now converted into tenements, is yet standing. The remains of a *Priory of Grey Friars*, founded by one of the Lords of Berkeley, are also situated within this parish. The buildings were greatly damaged during the siege in 1643; but the walls of the Church are yet entire. The mansion, fitted up from the remains of this Priory, was the residence of JUDGE POWELL, a native of this city, whose integrity, and knowledge of the laws, were the means of his promotion to the dignified station which he held. He died in the year 1713, and lies buried under a costly monument in the Cathedral. On the west side of the church-yard is *Crypt Grammar School*, founded and endowed by Dame Joan Cook, in pursuance of her husband's Will, in the thirty-first of Henry the Eighth, and now under the superintendence of a Master and Usher. Every four years, a scholar is sent from this school to Pembroke College, Oxford, to be there maintained for eight years on the foundation of George Townsend, Esq. instituted in the year 1683. The present Archbishop of Canterbury was a scholar and exhibitor from this School. *St. Nicholas's Church* is an ancient structure, situated on the north side of West-Gate-Street, and consisting of a nave and aisles. At the west end was a lofty spire, the upper part of which was pulled down a few years ago, in consequence of its decayed and dangerous state. Near West-Gate Bridge, in this parish, is *St. Bartholomew's Hospital*, a neat and convenient structure, erected about the year 1786, for the residence of twenty-six men, and thirty women. Each inmate has a separate apartment, and two shillings and sixpence, with some other aids, weekly, for maintenance. This building occupies the site, and is chiefly supported by the revenues, of an ancient *Priory*, the date of the foundation of which is uncertain; some writers attributing it to Bosil, the first Bishop of Worcester; and others, with more probability, to "William Myparty, a Burgess of Gloucester, who, when Nicholas Walred, Clerk, began to build the West Bridge, in the reign of Henry the Second, gave him a piece of land, where-

on the Hospital now stands, and built a house upon it, for the convenience of Walred, and his workmen; and afterwards retiring to it himself, with several other persons of both sexes, they all lived there together, in hermetical habit, under the government of a priest, upon the charity of well-disposed persons."* Henry the Third, at the request of Queen Eleanor, became a benefactor to this institution, and endowed it with St. Michael's Church; empowering its inmates, at the same time, to elect a Prior. In memorial of this conduct, statues of the King and Queen were erected on the elegant *High Cross*,† which formerly stood near the centre of the city at the intersection of the four principal streets. After the Dissolution, the Mayor and Burgesses obtained a grant of the premises; and the direction of the charity is now vested in the Corporation. *St. Mary de Lode Church* is situated near the west-gate of the College, in the centre of a square area. It is an ancient structure, but has been injudiciously repaired, without regard to the prevailing style, which is Saxon. The inside displays some Saxon arches: and the western entrance is through a semicircular arched door, with three mouldings. In the north wall of the chancel is the ancient tomb and effigies assigned by tradition to King Lucius, but more probably the monument of some contributor towards the building of the Church, *St. John's* is a modern building, consisting of a nave and aisles, occupying the site of an ancient Church, ascribed to King Athelstan. The latter appears to have had the privileges of a sanctuary; Francis, Viscount Lovel, and Lord Stafford, being recorded to have

* Rudder's Gloucestershire, p. 201.

† This structure was taken down, with some other old buildings, in conformity to an act of Parliament for improving the city, &c. passed in the year 1749. The Cross, sixty-four feet, six inches high, was octangular, divided into two compartments, with a column supporting a globe, and a cross rising above. Round the centre were eight statues, disposed in as many canopied niches. These statues represented the following Monarchs: John, Henry the Third, Queen Eleanor, Edward the Third, Richard the Second, Richard the Third, Elizabeth, and Charles the First. A drawing of the Cross was engraved by Vertue for the Society of Antiquaries.

have fled to it for safety after the battle of Bosworth Field. *Abel Wantner*, who compiled a Manuscript History of Gloucestershire, now in the Bodleian Library, was buried here. In this parish, but about half a mile north from the city, is *St. Margaret's Hospital*, founded originally for lepers, but at what period is uncertain: Aldred, Bishop of Worcester, granted them the privilege of burial in their own Church-Yard, about the middle of the twelfth century. The annual revenues, at the time of the Dissolution, were valued at 11l. 8s. 4d. It had previously been governed by a Master and Prior; but these offices were discontinued in the reign of Elizabeth, when the Hospital was granted to the Corporation, in which it is still vested. The persons now supported here, are eight poor men, a reader, &c. The annual allowance to each is about five guineas. Near this Hospital is that of *St. Mary Magdalen*, or *King James's*, which owed its foundation to the Priory of Lanthony, and, like the former, was originally intended for persons afflicted with leprosy. After the Dissolution, the government of this charity was vested in the Corporation, on condition that the Hospital should be rebuilt. King James ordered it to be called after his own name; and directed that the sum of nineteen pounds, annually paid by the Crown, should thenceforward be applied to the support of nineteen poor persons, and a Minister. The present establishment consists of nine women and ten men, each of whom are allowed eighteen pence weekly. *St. Aldate's*, or *St. Eldad's*, now a Chapel, is a neat modern fabric.

In the parish of *St. Oswald*, near the banks of the Severn, was a *Priory* traditionally reported to have been founded in honor of *St. Oswald*, about the year 660, by *Merwald*, Viceroy of *Mercia*, and *Domneva*, his wife. The most respectable authorities, however, attribute its foundation to *Ethelred*, Earl of *Mercia*, and the celebrated *Princess Ethelfleda*, who are said to have removed hither the remains of *St. Oswald*, from *Bardney Abbey*, in *Lincolnshire*, to prevent their being exposed to the sacrilegious fury of the Danes; and having richly entombed him, to have founded a College here in veneration of his memory. This was

afterwards changed into a College of Seculars; and again, in the time of William Rufus, into a Priory of Austin Canons. About the same period, its possessions appear to have become appropriate to the See of York; and the Prior and Convent were several times sentenced to grievous privations, for refusing to acknowledge the authority of the Archbishops of Canterbury; till at length a prohibition, issued from the Crown in 1318, put an end to the infringement on their liberties. The annual revenues, at the Dissolution, were estimated at 90l. 10s. 2½d. its possessions were afterwards granted to John Jennings, Esq. in consideration of former services, and the payment of 100l. Some remains of the monastic buildings are yet standing. In this parish, also, was a House of *White Friars*, or Carmelites, founded, in the reign of Henry the Third, by Sir Thomas Berkeley: its revenues were but small; and at the Dissolution it contained only three inmates. NICHOLAS CANTELUPE, a native of Gloucester, and author of several works in divinity and history, presided over this Convent. He was also Prior at Northampton; and much esteemed by Humphrey, the good Duke of Gloucester.

Among the other benevolent establishments that confer honor on the inhabitants of Gloucester, may be mentioned the *County Infirmary*, and the House of Industry. The former was built by voluntary contributions, and opened in the year 1755. The medical gentlemen connected with this institution, attend gratuitously; through this circumstance, and the generous subscriptions of individuals, the benefits of this charity have been extended to upwards of 22,000 persons. The annual receipts arising from voluntary donations, and the interest of funded property, amount to between 2000 and 3000l. The *House of Industry* was established in the year 1703, with intent to rescue the idle and profligate from the influence of vicious habits, and to enable them to exert their abilities for their own use, and to the advantage of the community. The management is directed by twenty-four Governors, who have full power to oblige the able to work, both by rewards and punishments: the regulations for this purpose are extremely judicious, and generally effectual, without the aid of the latter.

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The chief employment is the making of pins: those who execute more than the proportion allotted them, have the redundant profits for their own use.

The principal trade of Gloucester results from the navigation of the Severn, from the hemp and flax-dressing business, and from the Pin Manufacture: the latter is carried on here to a far greater extent than at any other place in England. The Severn is navigable to the wharf near the bridge, for trows, sloops, and brigs; but vessels of more considerable burthen can only get up at spring tides, the narrow channel of the river near the city being obstructed by rocks and sand-banks. To remedy this inconvenience, a canal was projected, and commenced, between Berkeley and Gloucester, sufficiently capacious to admit the passage of ships of 400 tons burthen. But war, the common enemy of the human race, has prevented the accomplishment of this great design; on which 120,000*l.* has already been expended, and only four miles, out of seventeen and a half, completed. The hemp and flax business employs a number of hands; but the principal source of labor to the inhabitants, is the *Pin Manufacture*, which appears to have been introduced into this city by John Tilsby, in the year 1626, on the decline of the clothing trade. This diminutive and useful article passes through the hands of twenty-five persons, from the state of rough wire, ere it assumes the form of a perfect pin. When the wire is reduced to a proper size, it is cut into portions of six inches in length, and afterwards to the size of the pin; each pin is then pointed, by being sharpened on a grinding-stone, turned by a wheel. The *head-spinning*, as the workmen term it, "is accomplished by means of a wheel, which, with astonishing rapidity, winds the wire round a small rod; this, when drawn out, leaves a hollow tube between the circumvolutions: every two circumvolutions, or turns, being cut off by shears, forms one head. The heads are then distributed to children, who, with great dexterity, by the assistance of a hammer and anvil, worked by the foot, fix the head in its proper place. The pins thus formed, are boiled in a copper, containing a solution of block-tin pulverized, and the lees of port; by this process,

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they lose their yellow brassy color, and assume the appearance of silver or tin."* In Gloucester are nine manufactories, which furnish employment to about 1500 persons. The pins conveyed annually to the Metropolis, are said to amount to the value of 20,000*l.* but the principal demand is from Spain and America. A *Bell-Foundry* was established in this city before the year 1500; and about that time, was conducted by William Hanshaw, who served the office of Mayor four times between 1500 and 1520: for the last 150 years, this business has centered in the Rudhall family, who, in that period, have cast upwards of 3000 bells. The *Clothing Trade*, from which the inhabitants of Gloucester formerly derived their chief support, is now completely lost; one fulling mill only remains.

The principal tradesmen of Gloucester are associated into twelve *Companies*: that of the Mercers, includes Apothecaries, Grocers, and Chandlers; the Smiths, and Hammer-men, include Ironmongers, Cutlers, Sadlers, and Glaziers; to the Metal-men, belong Goldsmiths, Braziers, Pewterers, and Pin-makers: the remainder are distinct, and consist of Weavers, Tanners, Butchers, Bakers, Joiners, and Coopers; Shoemakers, Taylors, Barbers, and Glovers. The public business of the city is transacted in the *Tholsey*, an appellation supposed to have been derived from the *Toll* which was received in it, by the Lords of the Manor, from the fairs and market. The present building was erected about the latter end of the reign of George the Second, but has since been altered. The *Booth Hall*, situated behind the inn of
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* Cambrian Directory, p. 4. The art of making pins of brass wire, is asserted to have been introduced into England in the year 1543. Before that period, they appear to have been made of ivory, bone, box, and other hard woods. When the Cathedral of St. Paul was rebuilt after the fire of London, a large cemetery was opened, in which the bodies of both Britons and Saxons are thought to have been deposited. The bodies were decayed; but many ivory and box pins, about six inches long, were found; and are supposed to have been used to fasten the wrappers or shrouds together. The pin manufactory belonging to Messrs. Weaver and Jefferis, in King-Street, Gloucester, was visited, in the year 1788, by their present Majesties, and the three eldest Princesses.

that name, and appropriated to the holding of the assizes, and other county business, is an ancient building; the interior contains two ranges of timber pillars, apparently of the time of Elizabeth.

The historians of Gloucester have conveyed to us the names of Morvid, as Consul or Governor in the reign of King Arthur; Wulpin le Rue, as Governor in the fifth of Canute; Wihiside, as Præfect in the year 1022; and Osmond, as Provost in the sixteenth and twenty-second of Henry the Second. King John* erected the town into a borough by charter, to be governed by two Bailiffs; and Henry the Second granted the Burgesses the same liberties and customs as were enjoyed by the citizens of London in the time of Henry the First. Various and important privileges were granted by succeeding Monarchs; the town was incorporated by charter, and empowered to send two representatives to Parliament. The charter under which the Corporation now act, was granted by Charles the Second.

Gloucester was anciently regarded as a distinct hundred; and the city is still privileged as a county within itself. The corporate officers consist of a Mayor, twelve Aldermen, a High Steward, a Recorder, Town-Clerk, two Sheriffs, Common Council, &c. The title of Mayor first occurs in the year 1483. The High Stewards have generally been persons of great eminence; the present High Steward is the Earl of Berkeley; the Recorder is the Duke of Norfolk. The Members of Parliament are elected by the inhabitants and freemen; the number of voters is about 3000; the

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earliest

* Among the other privileges granted to the inhabitants of Gloucester, was that of a *Mint*, which appears to have been established here by King Athelstan, and afterwards confirmed by charter of King John. Rudder observes, "there is a silver coin of King Harold, with this inscription: HAROLD REX ANGLORUM: The King had both Crown and Sceptre. The reverse is, WVLGEAT ON GLEAVECESTRE, with PAX in the middle. In antient grants to this city, the *Monetarii* (Moneyers or Coiners, who were Ministers of the Mint, and made, coined, and delivered out, the King's money) are expressly mentioned, and had particular privileges granted to them. It is probable that several of the coins, whereon are *Fleurs de Lis*, and this inscription, AVE MARIA GRATIA PIA ET PLENA, were struck in this place, since they are so frequently found here."

earliest return was made in the twenty-third of Edward the First. By a particular clause in the act of the thirty-third of Henry the Eighth, which erected the present Bishopric of Gloucester, it was ordered, that the town should thenceforth be termed a city. The police is extremely well regulated.

The *Markets* at Gloucester had long been established by prescriptive right; but the present markets were chartered by Henry the Third. They are plentifully supplied with every kind of meat, vegetable, and corn; the first is not so abundant. The Market-House, in the East-Gate Street, was built in the year 1786, and has a handsome front: here corn is sold by sample, every Wednesday and Saturday, together with meat, poultry, and vegetables: the Market-House, in the South-Gate Street, is open daily, for the sale of vegetables, fish, and butter: the principal supply of fish is from London and Bristol; but the river Severn furnishes salmon, chad, and lampreys. Three fairs are held annually, and much frequented. That held in Barton-Street, is chiefly for the sale of cheese; though many horses, and cattle of all kinds, are often purchased here.

Very considerable improvements in the appearance and buildings of this city, have been made within the last sixty years. The streets are now well paved,* and lighted; and various edifices, or projections, that obstructed the free passage of carriages, have been removed. Formerly the houses were chiefly of timber, which at several periods occasioned the destruction of a large proportion of the city by accidental fires: they are now principally of brick. From the intersection of the four chief streets, the buildings occupy an easy descent each way, a circumstance that greatly contributes to health and cleanliness. The city receives its supply of water from springs that arise on Lord Sydney's estate at Matson, about two miles southward; and, as appears from ancient records, an aqueduct was carried thence to Gloucester, for the same purpose, upwards of 400 years ago. The public amusements.

* Mention of pavement occurs in the city records as early as the reign of Edward the Third.

ments are similar to those of most other respectable cities; and recreation is sought in the attractions of a *Theatre*, *Assembly Rooms*, &c. A more local amusement, connected with the purposes of benevolence, is the *Musical Festival*, established by the members of the Choirs of Gloucester, Worcester, and Hereford; but aided latterly by the first performers in the kingdom. The profits are applied to relieve the necessities of the widows and orphans of clergymen; and arise from collections made at the Cathedral door where the Festival is celebrated. The meetings are held yearly, and alternately, in each of the above cities, and continue for three days.

The houses and population of Gloucester appear to have varied considerably in different ages, according to the degree of security, or danger, which the inhabitants experienced. At the period of the Domesday Survey, the number of the former appears to have been about 250. The taxes paid by the city, in Edward the Confessor's time, "were 36l. in money; twelve *sectaries*, or gallons, of honey, according to the measure of the burgh; thirty-six dicres of iron,* each of ten bars; 100 iron rods, drawn out for the nails of the King's ships; and some other small customs." From the era of the Conquest, it gradually increased; though its progress was several times interrupted by fires and civil commotions. About the year 1487, three hundred houses are recorded to have "fallen to decay;" and the neglect continuing during a great part of the next reign, an act was passed, in the twenty-eighth of Henry the Eighth, to render the rebuilding compulsory on the part of the landholders, who, under pain of forfeiture, were ordered to restore their houses within a limited period. In the year 1562, the number of housekeepers was upwards of 900, and that of inhabitants, about 4000. During the siege in 1643, more than 240 houses, and other buildings, were destroyed. Since that time, they have regularly increased. In 1710, they

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amounted

* It seems probable, from this record, that iron works were very early established at Gloucester; and it is certain, from ancient writings, that considerable forges for iron were erected here, the supplies of ore being obtained from Robin's Wood Hill.

amounted to 1003; in 1743, to upwards of 1300; (probably including the suburbs;) and on the last enumeration, under the act of 1801, those of the city alone, amounted to 1368, and the population, to 7265: the inhabitants of the suburbs amount to about 1500.

Among the natives of this city, who have attained eminence for their fortune or ability, may be recorded BENEDICT, who wrote the Life of St. Dubricius, Archbishop of Caerleon, and lived about the year 1120; OSBERN, whose skill in philosophy, divinity, and eloquence, was particularly celebrated, and whose manuscripts were placed in the Royal Library, by Henry the Eighth; and ROBERT of Gloucester, who flourished about the year 1263, and wrote a Chronicle of Britain in verse, from the age of Brutus to the reign of Henry the Third. This Chronicle was published by Hearne, in the year 1714, in black letter, with a Glossary. These natives were all monks of St. Peter's Abbey.

On the north-west side of Gloucester is the celebrated ISLE OF ALNEY, a small tract, formed by the separation of the stream of the Severn into two channels. This was the scene of contest between Edmund Ironside and Canute the Dane, after the Battle of Assindune,* in the year 1016: Edmund had retreated to Gloucester, where forming a new army, he awaited the coming of Canute; but being desirous of preventing unnecessary slaughter, he challenged the Dane to decide the war by single combat. Canute accepted the proposal; and, after a hard fought battle, felt himself on the eve of being worsted, when the suggestions of a subtle policy prevented his overthrow. "Bravest of youths," he

* Turner's History of the Anglo-Saxons, Vol. III. p. 367. "I have stated the duel, on the authority of Huntingdon, 363. Matt. West. 400. Peterb. 36. Knyghton, 2316. Brompton, 905. Highden, 274. Rieval, 364; and Radulf Niger, MS. Vesp. D. 10. p. 25. But Malmsbury, 72, and the Enc. Emmæ, 169, declare, that Canute declined the battle. The Saxon Chronicle, Florence, Hoveden, and some others, neither mention the challenge, nor the conflict: the Knytlinga Saga is as silent." *Ibid.* Malmsbury says, that Canute declined the proposal, from his inferior personal strength; but a division of the kingdom was made through the persuasions of the traitor Edric.

he exclaimed, in an interval of the combat, " why should our ambition covet each other's life ? Let us be brothers, and share the kingdom for which we contend." The gallant Edmund acquiesced in the proposition ; the rival Princes exchanged arms ; and, after a conference between the chiefs on either side, it was determined, that Canute should reign in the north, and Edmund in the south.* The greatness of soul, thus displayed by Edmund, had not its deserved reward ; for the same year, the wily Dane effected his assassination. The Isle of Alney comprehends many acres of fine rich pasture.

The VINEYARD HILL, about one mile west from Gloucester, was the site of a large House, belonging to the Abbots of St. Peter's, and to which they frequently retired. This edifice was demolished during the Civil Wars, as well as another, called the *Newark*, built in emulation, by a Prior of Lanthony, on a fine eminence south of Gloucester. The moat surrounding the Vineyard House is yet visible ; the summit of the Hill commands a fine view of the city, the river Severn, and the Vale.

Near Gloucester, in the South Hamlets, is LANTHONY, so named from a PRIORY of Austin Canons, founded here about the year 1187, by Milo, Constable of Gloucester, for the reception of certain monks, who had been driven from the more ancient Priory of *Lanthony*, in the north part of Monmouthshire, by the ravages and ill treatment of the Welsh. At first it was intended only as a Cell to the original Monastery, and was so confirmed by King John, who considerably increased its endowments ; but Edward the Fourth, in the twentieth of his reign, united both Monasteries by charter, and made this the principal. Its estimated value, at the Dissolution, was 748l. Os. 11½d. per annum. In the thirty-second of Henry the Eighth, the site was granted to Arthur Porter, and was conveyed in marriage, by a female descendant, to Sir John Scudamore, ancestor to Lord Viscount Scudamore, of Holm-Lacey, in Herefordshire. The present proprietor is the Duke of Norfolk, who obtained the estate by his marriage with

* History of the Anglo-Saxons.

Frances Fitzroy Scudamore; and is in possession of all the registers of the Priory; the most complete, probably, of any in England. After the Dissolution, the monastic buildings were converted into the offices of a farm. The only parts that now remain, are a large barn, and the principal entrance, or gateway, on which are the arms, among others, of the Bohuns, Earls of Hereford, who were great benefactors to the Priory, and many of whose family were buried in the Church. "In digging the Berkeley Canal, the foundations of the old Church were discovered, and some bodies disturbed; but no stones appeared, which could ascertain, by inscription, the names or dates of any of them. Several coins also, of the Lower Empire, were found."*

HEMPSTED, situated on a pleasant eminence, about one mile south-west from Gloucester, was part of the great possessions of Milo, Earl of Hereford, who, in the year 1136, bestowed it on the Priory of Lanthony. One of the Priors purchased the right of free-warren for this manor, in the twenty-first of Edward the First. After the Dissolution, it was granted to Thomas Atkyns, and his wife Margaret, whose descendant, Sir Robert Atkyns, of Saperton, sold it to Allen Bathurst, Esq. afterwards Earl Bathurst, of whom it was purchased by Daniel Lysons, Esq. whose family had been the principal lessees from the year 1630. His grandson, Samuel Lysons, Esq. Director of the Society of Antiquaries, is the present owner. The Manor-House was built about the commencement of the last century, but has been much improved under the direction of Mr. Lysons: it commands a very beautiful view over the city, and Vale of Gloucester. The Church, dedicated to St. Swithin, consists only of a nave and chancel, divided by a low tower, apparently of later construction than the rest of the building, which seems, from its architecture, to have been erected in the early part of the fourteenth century. The interior was paved with painted bricks, and displays some remains of richly painted glass: the *Font* is ancient, and somewhat curious. Many of the Lysons' family have been buried here.

The

* Rudge's Gloucestershire, Vol. II. p. 177, 391.

The small parish of MATSON is principally composed by *Robin's Wood Hill*, a delightful eminence, of a conical form, which rises immediately from the Vale, and forms a beautiful object to the surrounding country. The ascent to the summit from the Vale is nearly a mile in length; and the soil being extremely fertile, every side is covered with almost continual verdure. The name of this Hill is supposed to have been derived from the family of Robins, who were mesne tenants for many years. The Manor of Matson was parcel of the estate of Humphrey de Bohun, Earl of Hereford, in the forty-sixth of Edward the Third. It was afterwards given to the Abbey at Gloucester, by William Nottingham, Esq. Attorney-General to Edward the Fourth, for the endowment of a Chantry. MATSON HOUSE, with its appurtenances, which had belonged to the Priory at Lanthony, were granted, by Henry the Eighth, to the Mayor and Burgesses of Gloucester, who, in the year 1544, sold them, under the King's licence, to Thomas Lane, Esq. At the latter end of the reign of Elizabeth, the estate came into the possession of the *Selwyns*, and is now the property of Lord Viscount Sidney, a descendant from that family by the female line. The present Mansion was built by Sir Ambrose Willoughby, Knight, some time in Elizabeth's reign: during the siege of Gloucester, it became the head quarters of Charles the First: it is now occupied by William Fendall, Esq.

GROVE COURT, a reputed manor in the parish of Upton St. Leonard, was formerly the property of Jeoffrey de Grave, who held one yard-land here, in the reign of Henry the Third, by the service of attending the King in his wars against the Welsh, with bow and arrows, for forty days, at his own expence; and afterwards, at the cost of the King: it is now in the possession of Joseph Blisset, Esq.

PRINKNASH, the seat of Thomas Bayley Howell, Esq. was formerly the property of the Abbots of Gloucester, who obtained liberty of free-warren, in the reign of Edward the Third, and sometimes resided here. In the reign of James the First, it was purchased by Sir John Bridgman, Chief Justice of Gloucester, one

of whose descendants sold it, in the year 1770, to John Howell, Esq. father of the present owner. The Mansion is situated in a pleasant Park, on the acclivity of a hill, commanding an extensive prospect over a fertile and well-cultivated district.

HARDWICK was originally included in the parish of Standish, and held of the Earls of Gloucester; but afterwards became the property of the *Botelers*, from whom, by a co-heiress, it passed, in marriage, to John Trye, Esq. in the year 1447. This family are of Norman extraction, and appear to have continued owners of this estate for nearly 300 years. It is now the property of the Earl of Hardwicke, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, whose grandfather, the Lord Chancellor, purchased it of the Tryes, about the year 1730. John Trye, Esq. was High Sheriff of Gloucestershire in 1422; and his second son, and name-sake, was the first Mayor of the city of Gloucester. Many sepulchral memorials of this family are contained in their burial Chapel, at the south end of the aisle, in Hardwick Church; but most of them are in a ruinous condition. HARDWICK COURT, or Manor-House, was built about the year 1625, on the same site as the ancient castellated mansion of the Botelers; it contains a spacious Hall, and many large apartments: the Park is now cultivated.

HARSECOMB, a tything in the parish of Haresfield, is said to have been the site of a *Castle*, erected by the De Bohuns, Earls of Hereford, and which they inhabited. In HARESFIELD CHURCH are ancient recumbent figures, under arcades, of a Croisader, and two females, supposed to have been memorials of that family.* Haresfield is sheltered on the east by a high ridge of hills, called *Broad Ridge*, or *Broad Barrow Green*, “the site of a very singular camp, the first division of which is made by a single vallum, fifteen feet high, and 600 yards in length, from one side of the hill to the other: it is thought to have been a British station after the Roman Invasion. The very bold promontory, called the *Beacon Hill*, inclosed by a transverse vallation, fifty feet deep, and containing fifteen acres, is connected with the former, but in
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* Bigland's Gloucestershire, Vol. II. p. 28.

the parish of Standish: a spot, resembling a Prætorium, is still apparent, on which, probably, the beacon was afterwards placed.*” The surrounding prospects, from this ridge, are uncommonly fine, and include a very large proportion of the whole county.

PAINSWICK

Is a small, but not much frequented market-town, irregularly built on the southern acclivity of *Sponebed Hill*, and chiefly inhabited by persons employed in the clothing trade. In the Domesday Book, it occurs by the name of *Wiche*, and was then held by Roger de Laci, who becoming a partizan to Robert Curthose, was deprived of his possessions. From his family, it passed into that of *Pain Fitz-John*, from whom it derived the former part of its appellation; and has since been inherited by several noble personages. The present Lord of the Manor is Sir James Jerningham, Bart. whose family obtained possession in the early part of the reign of Queen Elizabeth. Some peculiar customs belong to this manor: among others, a wife has right to her free bench during life, on payment of a penny. This grant was made to Lord Talbot, in the year 1400, to recompence the widows of those who were slain in foreign wars; it having been represented, that eleven married men, out of sixteen, had lost their lives beyond the sea; and the widows were allowed to “marry with whom they list.” The *Church*, dedicated to St. Mary, consists of a nave, chancel, and side aisles, with a tower, and spire at the west end, rising to the height of 174 feet. The style of architecture is various: the south aisle is modern, having Doric pillars, with corresponding capitals; and the entrance is beneath a portico, of the Ionic order. The spouts under the battlements of the north aisle, represent singularly grotesque heads of demons. Several funeral memorials of the *Jerninghams* are contained in the chancel. The inhabitants of this parish, as returned under the
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* Bigland's Gloucestershire, Vol. II. p. 29.

act of 1801, amounted to 3150; the number of houses was 643.*

On the summit of Sponebed Hill is an ancient fortification, doubly entrenched, called *Kimsbury Castle*, *King's Barrow*, and *Castle-Godwin*. It includes about three acres, and is as nearly square as the nature of the ground would permit. Roman coins have been found here, at different periods, together with a sword, and some heads of spears, greatly corroded. In the time of Edward the Confessor, it appears to have been occupied by Earl Godwin, during the insurrection made to expel foreigners: it was also occupied by the Royalist army, after the siege of Gloucester. Its situation is extremely good; its height commanding all the adjacent stations. The ramparts have of late suffered great dilapidation, for the sake of the stones employed in constructing them.

Near Painswick is BUENOS AYRES, the pleasant seat of Benjamin Hyett, Esq. The House is a handsome modern edifice, judiciously situated among beech groves, and enlivened by plantations. The surrounding views are extensive, and very fine.

STROUD

Is situated on the ridge of a declivity near the confluence of the river Frome, and the Slade-water, and may be regarded as the centre of the clothing manufacture in this part of the country; all the surrounding vallies, or *bottoms*, exhibiting a continued range of

* "In the reign of Edward the Sixth, there were several insurrections in the west, and other parts of the kingdom: at that time, Sir Anthony Kingston was Knight Marshal, and Lord of the Manor of Painswick. He caused a gallows for the insurgents to be erected upon *Shepscombe Green*, in this parish; and made a prison in Painswick, to secure all sorts of offenders; and supposing they might be useful to posterity, he also gave three estates in his Lordship, since called *Gallows-lands*; one, always to maintain the gallows, a second to keep two ladders in readiness, and the third to provide halters: and that nothing, in so necessary a business, might be wanting, provided that the tything-man of Shepscombe should be hangman, and that he should enjoy an acre of land, in that tything, for his service." *Rudder*, p. 595, from Wantner's Collections in the Bodleian Library. A piece of ground in Shepscombe, possessed by the tything-man for the time being, is still called Hangman's Acre.

of houses, or villages, inhabited by persons engaged in that art. The scenery of this district is very beautiful; though the steep acclivity, and irregularity of the ground, render the roads fatiguing to the traveller. At the time of the Domesday Survey, this manor appears to have been comprehended in the adjoining parish of Bisley: it now belongs to Peter Wathen, Esq. The *Church*, dedicated to St. Lawrence, has been erected and repaired at different periods: it consists of a nave, chancel, and side aisles, with a tower and spire at the west end. An endowed *Free-School*, and several *Charity Schools*, supported by subscription, have been established here. The inhabitants of this parish, as returned in 1801, amounted to 5422: the number of houses to 1048. The Stroud river has been long celebrated, as possessing superior qualities in the communicating of scarlet dye to cloth.

JOHN CANTON, an ingenious natural philosopher, the son of a broad-cloth weaver, was born at Stroud in the year 1718. His progress in mathematical studies was very rapid; and though, at an early age, his studies were impeded by a constrained attention to his father's business, his acquirements were very great. All his leisure was devoted to science; and, without instruction, and aided only by a common knife, he carved a dial in stone, which shows the hour, the time of the sun's rising, his place in the ecliptic, and other phenomena. This being placed against the front of his father's house, so far attracted the notice of the neighbouring gentry, that they gave him free access to their libraries, and thus enabled him to pursue his favorite studies to more advantage. In the year 1739, he was prevailed on to visit the Metropolis, where he became assistant to Mr. Watkins, at an academy in Spitalfields, and afterwards succeeded him. "About 1746, he made some important discoveries in electricity; and received the annual gold medal from the Royal Society, of which he was also admitted a member, for an improved method of making artificial magnets. In the same year the University complimented him with the degree of M. D. and the Royal Society elected him one of the Council. He made many communications to that Society upon astronomical and philosophical subjects, but does not appear

appear to have published any separate work.”* He died of a dropsy, probably arising from his sedentary occupations, in the year 1772.

RODBOROUGH, on the south side of the Stroud river, was the birth-place of RICHARD CLUTTERBUCK, recorded by Rudder as a person of extraordinary endowments. “At three years old, he enjoyed a sufficient portion of sight to enable him to discern the difference between white and black; but at twelve he was totally blind, and so continued to his death; notwithstanding which, he walked up and down all the uneven ground in the neighbourhood, (and no ground can be more uneven,) without a guide. He could tell when an hour-glass was run out by his hearing, which was so acute, as to discover the lowest whisper in an adjacent room. He was a curious mechanic, and made oat-meal-mills, and pepper-mills, and could make a wheel for a cloth-mill with great advantage. He took a watch in pieces, and mended it; and made a handsome chain for his own watch. He made violins, bass-viol, and citterns, and a set of virginals with double jacks, and other improvements of his own invention; and played on each of those instruments. He taught music according to a scale of his own forming, and cut his notes upon pieces of wood.”† This extraordinary man was born in the year 1638; the time of his death is not mentioned.

In Rodborough parish, near Woodchester, is HILL HOUSE, the seat of Sir George Onesiphorus Paul, Bart. by whose father, the late Sir O. Paul, created a Baronet in the year 1762, it was erected. It is situated on a fine eminence, and commands a beautiful prospect over the Vale.

WOODCHESTER has obtained great celebrity from the various and splendid *Roman Antiquities* that have been discovered here at different periods. The village is situated on a pleasant eminence, forming part of a range of sweeping hills, which bound a fertile and delightful valley, and are clothed with fine beech wood.

The

* Rudge's Gloucestershire, Vol. I. p. c.

† History of Gloucestershire, p. 629.

The earliest mention of the antiquities at Woodchester, in any printed authority, appears in Bishop Gibson's *Additions to the Britannia*. He particularly notices the great *Tessellated Pavement*, parts of which had been frequently uncovered, on the digging of graves in the Church-Yard; it was afterwards mentioned by Sir Robert Atkyns, Count Caylus, and other writers; but no accurate description appeared till the year 1797, when a very elaborate and curious account, both of this and the other antiquities discovered here, was published by Samuel Lysons, Esq. F. A. S. who ascertained its complete design, form, and dimensions, through various openings made in the ground, to the depth of about four feet, in the years 1793, and 1794; and from whose work* the ensuing particulars are derived.

The "Pavement appeared to have been a square of forty-eight feet, ten inches. The general design is a circular area, twenty-five feet in diameter, inclosed within a square frame, consisting of twenty-four compartments, enriched with a great variety of guilloches, scrolls, frets, and other antique architectural ornaments, edged on the inside, by a braided guilloche, and, on the outside, by a labyrinth fret, between a single fret, and a braided guilloche. The large circular compartment, or area in the centre, is surrounded by a border, consisting of a Vitruvian scroll, edged on each side by a guilloche, and enriched with foliage, proceeding from a mask of Pan, having a beard of leaves. Immediately within this border, are representations of various beasts, originally twelve in number, on a white ground, with trees and flowers between

* This is intituled, "An Account of the Roman Antiquities discovered at Woodchester," &c. imperial folio, price ten guineas, and is one of the best publications on the subject that has ever appeared. It is illustrated by forty engravings, colored and plain; in which the pavements, and other remains, are represented both in their present and (supposed) perfect state. In these delineations, every attention appears to have been given to convey a complete idea of the situation, extent, and embellishments of the Roman buildings. Our extracts from this publication will be the more copious, because it so particularly tends to illustrate the domestic economy of the Romans, and the perfection to which the art of decorating pavements had been carried, by them, in this country.

tween them. The figures of a gryphon, a bear, a leopard, a stag, a tygress, a lion, and a lioness, are remaining. Those of a boar, a dog, and an elephant, and two others, unknown, but necessary to fill up the whole space, have been destroyed: most of these figures are about four feet in length.

“Within the circle occupied by the above mentioned figures of animals, is a smaller circle, separated from the larger by a guilloche, and a border of acorns, in which various birds are represented on a white ground: in this circle is also the figure of a beast, which seems to have been designed for a fox. Within the circle of birds is an octagonal compartment, formed by a twisted guilloche; in the south side of which, and also of the border of acorns, are openings to admit the principal figure of the design, which is now much mutilated; though about the year 1722, as appears from a drawing then made, the head only was wanting: it represents Orpheus playing on the lyre, which he rests on his left knee. No part of the Pavement, within the central octagon, exists at present; but it appears, from a memorandum on a drawing in the possession of Richard Gough, Esq. that it contained figures of fish, and that “about the centre, was a star-like figure.”

“In the four angular spaces, between the great border, and the great circular compartment, are the remains of female figures, two of which appear to have been in each of those spaces. The figures in the north-east angle, which are more perfect than any of the others, were evidently designed for Naiads: one of them is represented in a recumbent posture, with her right hand over her head, and her left holding what, undoubtedly, was intended for an urn, though very rudely expressed; the other, supporting her head with her left hand, extends her right over an urn, placed under her left arm.”

This Pavement, for its size, and richness of ornament, is supposed, by Mr. Lysons, to be equalled by few of those discovered in other provinces of the Roman Empire; and to be, unquestionably, superior to any thing of the *same* kind hitherto found in Great Britain. The compartments, of which the great border is composed, are all extremely elegant; and the coloring throughout

the whole is so managed, as to produce the most harmonious effect. The colors are of a dark bluish grey, red, white, and several shades of brown: the first is every where used for the outlines; and the red, light brown, and white, are introduced in all the guilloches, in such a manner, as to produce a sort of relief. The figures are, in general, inferior to the ornaments, a circumstance usually occurring in works of this kind; and, in a great measure, to be attributed to the nature of the materials of which they are composed. Part of the Pavement, near the north-east corner, appears to have been discolored by fire; the *tesserae* are mostly cubes of about half an inch; those of the outward border are somewhat larger, and those near the centre, much smaller: many are triangular, and of various other shapes. The whole, when entire, could not have contained less than a million and a half of them.*

The cement on which the Pavement was laid, appeared to be about eight inches thick, and composed of fine gravel, pounded brick, and lime, forming a very hard substance, on which the *tesserae* were laid: the interstices between them were filled with cement, so hard, that it was more difficult to break, than even the *tesserae* themselves. The Pavement had several flues running under it, which crossed each other at right angles: these were four feet in height, and one foot, eleven inches wide, at the bottom; from the middle, they gradually diminished, till their width at the top was only six inches. They were built of stone, and, from the remains of soot, were, doubtless, intended for heating the

* Most of the materials of which the *tesserae* are formed, are the produce of this country, except the white, which are of a very hard calcareous stone, bearing a good polish, and nearly resembling the Palombino marble of Italy. The dark bluish grey are of a hard argillaceous stone, found in many parts of the Vale of Gloucester, and there called blue *lyas*. The ash-colored are of a similar kind of stone, and frequently found in the same masses as the former. The dark brown are of a gritty stone, found near Bristol, and in the Forest of Dean. The lightest brown nearly resemble a hard calcareous stone, found at Lypiatt, about two miles from Woodchester. The red are of a fine sort of brick.

the room under which they were constructed; though no communication with a fire-place can now be traced.

Various foundations of apartments, with Tessellated Pavements, of diverse patterns, and part of an Hypocaust, have been found, at different periods, within the Church-Yard, and contiguous to the great Pavement; but the principal discoveries were made in the years 1795 and 1796, when the ground-plot of a very extensive Roman building was almost completely ascertained. The remains within the Church-Yard formed its northern extremity; the other parts were included in an adjoining orchard, and in a field, called the Parks. After a particular description of the various remains, Mr. Lysons gives the following general description of this building.

“The houses of the Romans, when situated in the country, were frequently on one floor; and if they belonged to persons of consequence, were of very great extent,* and enriched with the most magnificent and splendid decorations of every kind, though their external elevation was usually quite plain. They consisted of several large halls, porticoes, and open courts,† running through the centre of the building, with suites of rooms branching out on either side.

“The remains of the building at Woodchester bear a striking resemblance to the plan of the Roman houses here described. They cannot be expected to agree in every particular, since the Romans frequently varied the form of their houses, to adapt them to the climate of the country in which they were built. Two great courts, and the great room, (which contained the principal pavement,)

* *Domus atque villas cognoveris in urbium modum exedificatas.* Sallustius in *Catalinam.* *Infinita esse villarum spatia.* Tacit. Lib. III. *Annal.*

† These were distinguished by the names of *vestibula*, *atria*, *peristylia*, *tablinæ*, *cavædia* or *cava ædium*, *porticus*, and *crypto-porticus*. The rooms were divided into *triclinia*, *cænationes*, *æci*, *cubacula*, *balnearea*, *exedra*, and *pinacotheca*; the winter dining-rooms, and the baths, faced the winter west. (*occidentem hybernium.*) The bed-chambers, and the libraries, and the dining-rooms of the spring and autumn, were on the eastern side; the summer dining-rooms, &c. on the northern. *Vitr. Lib. VI. C. VII.*

pavement,) run through the middle of the building, and have numerous rooms, of various dimensions, branching out from them. The first, or greater court, seems to answer to the *Peristylum** of Vitruvius, and was probably surrounded with a colonnade, though only loose fragments of columns were found, and none of their bases could be discovered so as to ascertain their situations. On the east and west sides of this court, were considerable ranges of building; in the eastern wing, the remains of the *Laconicum*† are fully sufficient to indicate its original use. The room contiguous to it, on the eastern side, seems to have been an *Apo dyterium*;‡ and the one most distant, on the western side, a cold bath, as it was a very common practice among the Romans to use the cold bath immediately after the sudatory. Most of the rooms on the west side, it is very probable, were appropriated to the use of the servants, as they do not appear to have had tessellated pavements, or other decorations. On the north side of the great court were three large rooms, which, from the fragments of statues, marbles, and columns found there, appear to have been very highly decorated; and from their size, it is probable, that they were either *Æci*, or *Exedræ*.§

“ The second, or inner court, had galleries on the north, east, and west sides: that on the north side has an elegant tessellated pavement; and a fragment of one remains in that on the east side. These galleries were clearly what the Romans called *Crypto-porti-*

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cus,

* The *Peristylum* was a large court surrounded with a colonnade.

† The *Laconicum*, or, as it was sometimes called, *assa*, or *calida sudatio*, was intended entirely for the purpose of sweating: it appears from Vitruvius, that it was usually of a circular form, and adjoining to the *tepidarium*, or warm bath.

‡ The *Apo dyterium* was a sort of dressing-room for the baths contiguous to the *laconicum*, or *assa*.

§ The *Æci* were a large kind of saloons, sometimes square, and frequently with columns, used for the purposes of entertainment: Vitr. lib. XI. chap. V. and X. The *Exedræ* were large rooms of various forms, which are supposed to have been furnished with seats, and used for conversation and disputations. Vitr. lib. V. chap. XI.

cus, and the area inclosed within them, might have been the *Atrium*.* The room, of which the great Tessellated Pavement remains, was, no doubt, the *Cavædium Tetrastylon*† of Vitruvius, and must have been extremely magnificent; as there is great reason to imagine, from the elegance of the floor, that the ceiling, and other parts of the room, were richly decorated. The walls on the west side of the *cavædium*, and *crypto-porticus*, are probably remains of the *Triclinia Hyberna*,‡ and baths; as most of them have subterraneous flues, for the purpose of introducing heat; and their situation corresponds with that which Vitruvius assigns for those apartments. The apartments on the eastern side of the *crypto-porticus*, were probably warmed by the hypocaust: these occupy the situation assigned by Vitruvius for the *triclinia* of the spring and autumn.”

The design of one of the pavements discovered among these remains, consists of five octagonal compartments, containing figures
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* There is reason to suppose, from several passages in the Roman writers, that *Atria* were sometimes open courts, surrounded with an open *porticus*, or *crypto-porticus*.

† The *Cavædia*, or *Cava Ædium*, appear to have been sometimes large halls, and sometimes open courts in the interior of the house, communicating with several suites of rooms, and in many respects resembling the *atria*. Vitruvius describes the tetrastyle *cavædia* thus: *Tetrastyla sunt quæ subjectis sub trabibus angularibus columnis, et utilitatem trabibus, et firmitatem præstant*. Lib. VI. c. III. The following passage in the *Æneid* shows the situation of the *cavædium*, and also that it was distinct from the *atrium*, with which it has been sometimes confounded.

Vestibulum ante ipsum primoque in limine Pyrrhus
Exultat—

—ingentem lato dedit ore fenestram.

Apparet domus intus, et *atria* longa patescunt:
At domus interior gemitu miseroque tumultu
Miscetur: penitusque *cavæ* plangoribus *ædes*
Fœmineis ululant:—

LIB. II. V. 469, 482, &c.

‡ The *Triclinia Hyberna*, were the winter supper-rooms.

on a white ground, surrounded by a double labyrinth fret; immediately within which, on the north side, is a scroll of flowers, having a vase in the centre. In the compartments at the north-west and south-east corners, are fragments of Bacchanalian figures: the compartment at the south-west corner is entire, and contains figures of two boys, holding up a basket of fruit and leaves, with the words *BONUM EVENTUM* inscribed under them. Nothing remained within the compartment at the north-east corner, but the letters *BIINII C* being the concluding part of the foregoing sentence.* The last word has probably been *COLITE*, and the whole inscription *BONUM EVENTUM BENE COLITE*; the *II*, intended for the Greek *H*, being introduced for *E*, a circumstance by no means uncommon in Roman inscriptions. Several fragments of stucco, painted in fresco, were found among the rubbish; and various flues, crossing each other at right angles, about four feet in depth, were discovered beneath the pavement. Under the ruins of an adjoining room, were also flues of similar dimensions, as well as considerable remains of the fire-place by which they had been heated. This projected four feet from the walls of the room: on each side of it was a wall, one foot, eight inches thick, and four feet, two inches asunder. Near the fire-place was a quantity of skulls and bones of animals, mostly of sheep. In another room to the south, was a similar fire-place; and not far distant, a coin of Magnentius was found.

The remains of the *Laconicum*, or Sweating Room, were very considerable. The floor, of very hard cement, was about four feet below the surface of the ground: its width was eight feet, ten inches, and its length nine feet, ten inches. The floor was eight inches thick: beneath it was a layer of bricks, about one foot wide, two feet long, and two inches thick: some of these covered the flues that run beneath the floor, and their under sides were covered with wood soot. The depth of the flues was two feet, two

O o 2

inches:

* No inscription, previous to this, appears to have been found on any tessellated pavement discovered in England; but three hexameter verses have been since met with on one discovered at Frampton, in Dorsetshire. See *Beauties*, Vol. IV. p. 513.

inches: they were five in number, four being transverse, and one longitudinal. "The intermediate space between the transverse flues is filled up with a sort of ridge tiles, forming funnels, and placed between layers of brick and stone. The funnels were, one with another, eighteen inches long, and four and a half in diameter; some of them were formed by only one of the curved tiles. A row of perpendicular funnels extended along the north and south walls, formed of brick tiles, with their edges turned up: the tops of these funnels were level with the surface of the cement floor, where the openings formed by them were three inches wide." The remains of two *Hypocausts* were also found within a little distance of each other.

Several fragments of statues, and red glazed pottery, various pieces of stags horns, broken glass, and numerous coins, have been found among the ruins of the buildings. Among the coins was one of Hadrian, and another of Lucilla, of large brass; and a considerable quantity of small brass of the Lower Empire, chiefly of Tetricus, jun. Victorinus, Probus, Constantinus, Aug. Constantius, sen. et jun. Magnentius, and Valens. A dagger of iron, much corroded, two spurs, of the same metal, a small brass hatchet, several brass fibulæ, a key, apparently of hardened clay, various pieces both of brass and bone, and some other antiquities, have also been discovered among the remains.

From the magnitude of the building, the ruins of which afford such ample materials for description, and from the richness of its decorations, Mr. Lysons imagines it to have been a *VILLA*, erected for the residence of the Roman Proprætor,* or "at least of the Governor of this part of the province, and occasionally, perhaps, of the Emperor himself." In another place, he observes, that

* There is no situation, in the south-west parts of this Island, which could have been more advantageous for the residence of any of the Roman governors than this place. Whether there was any town, or military station, at Woodchester, does not appear, as no one is mentioned in the Itineraries, or ancient maps, which, in any respect, answers to its situation: it is, however, probable, from the termination of its name, that it was so. Perhaps so many Roman remains have scarcely been found in an equal space in any part of England, as within fifteen miles of Woodchester.—*Lysons*.

that the ornaments in the Tesselated Pavements are such as prevailed very much in the time of Hadrian; "and as that Emperor visited this Island, and is known to have erected various edifices in most other provinces of the Roman Empire, it is not by any means improbable, that it was erected by his order; though it should be observed, that the same ornaments continued in use for a considerable time afterwards." Its destruction appears to have been effected by fire; many appearances of which were seen in various parts of the ruins.

The *Manor* of Woodchester was held of William, Earl Mareschal, in the reign of Edward the First, by the *Maltravers*, whose family became owners, and continued in possession till the time of Richard the Second, when it passed to the *Arundels*, by the marriage of an heiress. Queen Elizabeth, by a grant, dated in her sixth year, which mentioned it to "have been lately the Earl of Arundel's," bestowed it on the *Huntleys*, from whom it was purchased by Sir Robert Ducie, an eminent merchant and banker, who was Lord Mayor of London in the year 1631. Elizabeth, his grand-daughter and heiress, conveyed it, by marriage, to Edward Morton, of an ancient family, settled at Morton, in Staffordshire; from whom the present proprietor, Francis Reynolds, Lord Ducie, is descended. This nobleman has a deserted seat in the parish, called *SPRING PARK*, most romantically situated, and abounding in fine wood, but laid out in the old style, with numerous fish-ponds, &c. His present residence is at Tortworth.

The *Church*, dedicated to St. Mary, consists of a nave, chancel, and south aisle, with a low embattled tower at the west end: the north door-way, and the arch that separates the nave and chancel, are of Norman architecture. In the chancel is a handsome altar monument to the memory of *SIR GEORGE HUNTLEY*, and his Lady, who are represented lying beneath a canopy: round the tomb are figures of their ten children. Near the Church is the seat of Sir Samuel Wathen, Knt. who was Sheriff of this county in 1803. The number of houses in Woodchester parish, as returned under the late act, was 195; of inhabitants, 870: many

of the latter are employed in the clothing* trade, which is here carried on to a considerable extent. A large quantity of gold coin, of Edward the Fourth, is mentioned by Sir Robert Atkyns, to have been discovered in this parish in the year 1697.

KING'S STANLEY, or STANLEY REGIS, supposed to have been the residence of one of the Mercian Kings, is a pretty considerable village, principally inhabited by persons employed in spinning, and other branches of the clothing manufacture. That part of the village called *The Borough*, is a distinct tything, and possesses, with other privileges, the right of choosing two Bailiffs, who execute the office of Constable within its precincts. The manor was anciently the property of the Maltravers, and afterwards of the Arundels; but now belongs to Lord Ducie. "At King's Stanley," says Mr. Gough, "is a *Roman Camp*, two miles from which were lately found eight Roman altars uninscribed; but having on one face a Roman soldier, and one of them the Genius with a cornucopia, and a patera on an altar: also a large brass of Alexander Severus, rev. a soldier with a spear and branch TR. P. VI. COS. III."† The population of this parish in 1801, was 1434; the number of houses 322.

STANLEY ST. LEONARD, though still marked in the maps as a market-town, and formerly of considerable consequence as such, is now only a straggling, desolated village, the greatest part of the buildings having been destroyed by a fire in the year 1686. At the period of the Domesday Survey, the manor was held by Radulph de Berchelai, in whose family it continued till the reign of Richard the Second: it is now the property of Robert Sandford, Esq. of Cirencester. A PRIORY, dedicated to St. Leonard, was founded here soon after the Norman Conquest; most probably by Roger de Berkeley, who endowed it with the advowsons of several churches, and afterwards assumed the cowl here. In

1141

* The first *Napping Mill* in this part of the country, was erected at Woodchester, by the late Sir Onesiphorus Paul, Bart. By this machine the nap is raised upon the cloth in small knots, at regular distances.

† Gough's Camden, Vol. I. p. 272.

1141 he gave the patronage of the Priory, with all its rights, to the Abbey of Gloucester, by which it afterwards became a cell of Benedictines to that foundation. Shortly previous to the Dissolution, Henry the Eighth, by letter, desired that the only two Monks then remaining in the Priory, might be recalled to the Abbey, and that the cell might be leased to Sir Anthony Kingston, for ninety-nine years, at the annual rent of 36*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* In 1545, the site of the Priory, with its appurtenances, was granted to the same person; and was soon afterwards released by him to Anthony Bouchier, Esq. who conveyed the estate to John Sandford, Esq. in the year 1550: from him it descended to R. Sandford, Esq. the present owner. The "old Priory House," and seat of the Sandfords, was pulled down about the year 1750, and a new mansion began on the spot, which yet remains unfinished. The Priory kitchen, a large square building, and some out-houses, are still standing, but display nothing remarkable in the architecture. The village Church, dedicated to St. Swithin, is an ancient fabric, in the form of a cross, having a low tower, rising from the intersection, and very singularly constructed; the walls being double, with a passage and recesses between them. The windows are in general lancet-shaped, but the west window is ornamented with tracery. Several of the *Sandfords* lie buried in the chancel; and in the south aisle was interred Dr. John Crosse, who occurs as Prior of St. Leonard's in 1189: his epitaph, now defaced, was as follows:

Hui jacet hoc tumulo Doctor John Crosse nominatur
 Ille Prior Sancti fuerat Leonardi
 Hunc sancto rotulo scribat Deus et tucatur.

FROCESTER, anciently written Frouceestre, is a small village, situated at the bottom of a high hill, which screens it on the east, and from its summit commands a very beautiful prospect. "On the left is Camley Pike, of a volcanic shape, and the bold projecting head of Stinchcombe; in the foreground, two expanded reaches of the Severn: the intermediate distances between the Forest Hills, the blue mountains of Malvern, and the turrets of Glo-

cester, are filled up with cultivated fields, village churches, and buildings of various descriptions, among which the Castle and tower of Berkeley, with their lofty battlements, are easily distinguished.”* This manor was anciently the property of the See of York, and afterwards of the Abbey at Gloucester; but now belongs to the Earl of Warwick. The *Court*, or *Manor-House*, is of the age of Elizabeth; and during the progress of that Sovereign through this county, in the year 1574, it became her residence for one night. It was then in the possession of George Huntley, Esq. whose family continued owners till 1612, when it became the property of Sir Robert Ducie, Bart. by purchase: his descendant, Lord Ducie, the present owner, possesses considerable property in this part of Gloucestershire. The Abbots of Gloucestershire had a sumptuous residence here: and it is said to have formerly been the site of a College of Prebendaries.† An ancient conventual Barn, seventy yards in length, is still remaining in an entire state.

ULEY, a small, but pleasant and populous village, principally inhabited by persons engaged in the clothing manufacture, is situated in a combe, or valley, bounded by lofty hills on every side but the west, and watered by a fine stream, formed by the springs which descend from the surrounding eminences. On the hill north-west of the village, is an ancient work, called *Uley-Bury Camp*, evinced to be Roman by the various coins that have been found here, chiefly of the Emperors Antoninus and Constantine. It occupies the whole summit of the eminence, including between thirty and forty acres, and is defended by a double entrenchment, running round the verge. Its form is oblong, and its natural strength very great; the declivity being very abrupt on all sides but the entrance.

STOUT'S HILL, in Uley parish, the seat of Lloyd Baker, Esq. is a handsome modern building, with octagonal projections, turretted, and ornamented in the pointed style. It commands a fine view of the village; and is rendered interesting by the conti-

guity

* Rudge's Gloucestershire, Vol. I. p. 379.

† Rudder, p. 457.

guity of some fine beech woods, hanging from the slope of the eminence to the south. This was the birth-place of MR. SAMUEL RUDDER, one of the historians of Gloucestershire, as appears from the following passage inserted in his own description of Stout's Hill: "This," he observes, "is also the place of the writer's nativity, where he collected his first ideas, and for which he still indulges a natural partiality.

Ille terrarum mihi præter omnes
 Angulus ridet—
 Ver ubi longum, tepidasque præbet
 Jupiter brumas."—

HORACE,

DURSLEY

Is a small town, irregularly built, and situated at the base of a steep hill, covered with a fine hanging beech wood. "On the south-east side of the church-yard, some springs arise out of the ground, like boiling water, in so copious a manner, as to drive a fulling mill, at about a hundred yards distance below; and are never known to diminish in quantity. At their rise they cover a fine level gravelly bottom, for about fifteen feet square, with nearly two feet of water, wherefore the inhabitants call it Broad Well; but further back than the time of Henry the Third, it was called *Ewelme*. This is a Saxon word, signifying the head of a spring; and it is conjectured that this remarkable water gave name to the town; as in British, *Dwr* is water; and *Ley*, *Lege*, *Lega*, are common appellations for pasture grounds, particularly in elevated situations."*

This manor continued in possession of the Berkeley family from the period of the Domesday Survey till the sixth of Richard the Second; after which it passed, by heirs-female, through the families of Cantelupe, Chedder, and Wekys. Robert Wekys sold it in the ninth of Elizabeth; and in the same year it was twice more transferred

* Rudge's Gloucestershire, Vol. II. p. 216.

transferred by purchase; the last time to Thomas Estcourt, Esq. whose collateral descendant, Thomas Estcourt, Esq. of Estcourt House, near Tetbury, is now owner. The Berkeleys had a *CAS-TLE*, or Baronial residence, at the north-west end of the town, surrounded by a moat, which still remains: the site is now an orchard; and the fields adjoining are yet called the Castle Fields. The fortress, which had fallen to decay, was pulled down about the reign of Queen Mary, and the manor-house at Dodington erected with the materials.

Leland calls Dursley “a praty clothinge towne.” The clothing manufacture is still its chief support, and is now carried on with every advantage derived from machinery: the business of making *Cards* for the clothiers is also flourishing here. In old records, Dursley is enumerated as one of the five ancient boroughs in Gloucestershire; and so it was returned by the Sheriff in the ninth of Edward the First. The chief officer was formerly styled the *Præpositus*, but now has the appellation of Bailiff: he is elected annually at the Manor Court, from among the more respectable inhabitants; but his authority is limited to the examination of weights and measures, and the superintendence of the police. Near the centre of the town is a *Market-House*, built with free-stone, about the year 1738, at the expence of the lord of the manor, whose arms are displayed on front: at the east end is a statue of Queen Anne. The charter for the market was granted by Edward the Fourth in the year 1471.

The *Church*, dedicated to St. James, is an elegant building, consisting of a spacious nave, side aisles, and chancel, with a tower of modern Gothic at the west end, and a handsome portal on the south. All the windows are pointed, and over the south entrance are three ornamental niches, canopied. “The dividing arches (of the interior) are light: carved on the timber frame roof are the arms of Berkeley and Fitzalan, and the device of THOMAS TANNER, who, in the reign of Henry the Sixth, erected a Chapel at the end of the south aisle, for the reception of a chantry, in which is the figure of a skeleton beneath a canopy, intended as a memorial of him: it is probable that he contributed to the external

nal embellishment of the whole south side of the Church, which is in the best style of that age. The old spire fell in 1699, while the bells were ringing, by which accident several lives were lost: it was rebuilt and finished in 1700, at the expence of 1000*l*. The chancel was likewise re-erected in 1738, and neatly fitted up.”* The number of inhabitants in this township, as returned under the late act, was 2379; the number of houses, 470: several of the latter bear the marks of considerable antiquity; on the exterior of one of them is the date 1520. The fossil productions of this and the adjacent parishes are very numerous.

EDWARD FOX, Bishop of Hereford, whom Fuller styles “the principal Pillar of the Reformation, as to the politic and prudential part thereof,” was a native of this town. He was taught the rudiments of knowledge at Eton; but was admitted at King’s College, Cambridge, in 1512; and in 1528 he became its Provost. He was a Prelate of a very active spirit, and was employed several times by Henry the Eighth, as Ambassador to the courts of France and Germany. The opinion of the University of Cambridge in favor of that Sovereign’s divorce from Queen Catherine, was chiefly procured by his exertions, aided by those of Dr. S. Gardiner. In 1535 he was promoted to the See of Hereford, and died three years afterwards.

In Dursley parish, on the top of the hill, near Nibley Park, is a bleak and dreary place called the HERMITAGE, where an anchoret appears to have had his abode in the beginning of the reign of Henry the Eighth.

At KYNLEY, or KINLINE, in the parish of Nimpsfield, was a PRIORY, which seems to have been founded before the Norman Invasion, as the Conqueror seized its possessions. His successor, William Rufus, restored them; and shortly afterwards, the Priory became a College, or Free Chapel, of Secular Priests, which continued till the general suppression under Henry the Eighth: the Priory-House still remains.

HORSLEY,

* Bigland’s Gloucestershire, Vol. I. p. 513.

HORSLEY, a disused market-town, was, soon after the Conquest, granted to the Abbey of St. Martin, founded at Troars, in Normandy, by Roger de Montgomery, Earl of Shrewsbury; and a PRIORY, dependent on that Monastery, was soon afterwards established here. The manor was afterwards exchanged for lands in France, with the Prior and Convent of Bruton, in Somersetshire; and then became a cell to the latter, to which it continued to appertain till the Dissolution, though deserted of its inmates. Edward the Sixth granted the manor to Sir Walter Denny, of whose son it was purchased by the *Stephens*, of Easington: their descendant, by the female line, Henry Willis Stephens, Esq. is now proprietor. The Manor-House, situated at Chavenage, was erected by Robert Stephens in the reign of Elizabeth: some of the painted windows of the Priory were built up in this edifice. The only remains of the monastic buildings at Horsley, is an ancient *Gateway*, standing near the Church. In this parish are some extensive beech woods; the number of houses, returned under the late act, was 562; the number of inhabitants, 2971.

The manor of AVENING was granted, by the Conqueror, to the Nunnery of Caen, in Normandy, to which it continued annexed till the suppression of the Alien Priories, when it was appropriated to the use of the Nuns of Sion, in Middlesex, who retained it till the Dissolution. Henry the Eighth, in the year 1541, granted it to Andrew, Lord Wyndesor, with various other estates of great value, in consideration of the sum of 2197l. 5s. 8d. paid into the Exchequer.* Thomas, Lord Windsor, his lineal descendant, sold Avening, in the seventeenth century, to Samuel Sheppard, Esq. in whose family it yet remains. Philip Sheppard, Esq. the present owner, resides at GATCOMBE PARK, in an elegant modern building, erected by his late father about thirty years ago.

The

* MSS. Harl. No. 1885. When Avening, and the other estates, recited in the grant, were valued for sequestration in 1643, it appeared that Henry, Lord Wyndesor, had mortgaged them to Sir H. Pratt for 15,120l.—MSS. Brit. Mus. 5494. It appears by Dring's Catalogue, that they were afterwards compounded for 1100l.

The *Church* is an ancient fabric, in the Norman style, and is built in the form of a cross, with a low tower rising from the intersection: a small aisle, attached to the south side of the nave, has several monumental records of the *Drivers*, formerly lords of the neighbouring manor of Aston, but now extinct. In the north transept is a monument to the memory of HENRY BRYDGES, Esq. seventh son to John Lord Chandois, of Sudley, who is represented in armour, kneeling, beneath an arch.

In a field adjoining to Gatcombe Park, which is partly in this parish, and partly in that of Minchin-Hampton, is a large oval *Tumulus*, now planted with firs, which had huge erect stones at each end of it, and arms within it.”* “On the summit is placed a huge fragment of rock, evidently a sepulchral monument, which has been known for ages by the name of *Tingle Stone*.”† “In the common field, near it, are two large stones, set upright in the ground: one has its top broken off; the other is perfect, and stands nearly ten feet above the surface. Tradition assigns one, or both, to the memory of *Long*, a Danish chieftain, whence the name of *Long’s Stone*, or Pillar: near it two ancient rings have been found.”‡

MINCHIN-HAMPTON

RECEIVED the former part of its name from the old word *Monachyn*, a Nun, in reference to its having belonged to the Nuns of Caen, in Normandy, to whom it was granted by the Conqueror. In 1213, the Abbess of Caen purchased the privilege of a weekly market, and two annual fairs, for this town; and the grant was renewed, 1545, to Andrew, Lord Wyndesor, to whom the manor had been sold after the final dissolution of the Monasteries. Philip Sheppard, Esq. Lord of Avening, purchased this estate in the year 1664; and his descendant, Philip, of Gatcombe Park, is the present owner.

The

* Fosbrook’s Gloucestershire, Vol. I. p. 380.

† Bigland’s Gloucestershire, Vol. I. p. 392.

‡ Rudge’s Gloucestershire, Vol. I. p. 332.

The *Church*, dedicated to the Holy Trinity, was founded, about the reign of Henry the Third, by the Nuns of Caen, and is built in the form of a cross, with side aisles, and a tower springing from the intersection of the nave and transept. The south transept was rebuilt, in the year 1382, by SIR JOHN DE LA MERE, and MAUD, his wife. The great window is beautifully ramified; between the buttresses are several other windows, with narrow lancet arches: under the large window are two arcades, with the recumbent effigies of Sir John and his Lady: the former is represented as a croisader; the latter, in the dress of the age. Numerous monuments, and sepulchral inscriptions, diversify the interior of this fabric; and the "dividing arches are on one side round and heavy, and on the other, plain Gothic."* On a brass plate in the Church-yard is the following inscription to the memory of JAMES BRADLEY, the celebrated Astronomer, who was a native of this county.

H. S. I.

JACOBUS BRADLEY, S. T. P.

Regalium Societatum

Londini, Lutetiæ Parisiorum,

Berolini, & Petropoli Sodalis; Astro-
nomus Regius, Astronomiæ apud
Oxonienses Professor Savilianus.

Vir in rerum Physicarum scientiâ exco-
lendus,

præcipuè vero in penitissimis arcanis
indagandis; tam felici diligentia & sagaci
ingenio, ut quotquot ubique gentium
iisdem honestissimis studiis navabant
operam, illi omnes libenter assurgerent;
tam singulari interim modestiæ, ut
quâ esset apud gravissimos judices
existimatione ipse solus ignorasse
videatur. Discessit III. Id. Jul.

A. D. MDCCLXII. ætatis

LXX.

Minchin-

* Bigland's Gloucestershire, Vol. II. p. 4.

Minchin-Hampton is pleasantly situated on a gradual declivity, with a south-east aspect; it consists of four streets, lying at right angles, but irregularly built. It contains three *Market-Houses*, two of which were erected by P. Sheppard, Esq. in the year 1700, with the design of establishing a wool market; but the attempt was without success. The number of houses in this town, as ascertained under the population act, was 710; the number of inhabitants, 3419: of these 1549 were males, and 1870 females. The manufacture of cloths is carried on to a considerable extent in the vicinity, the numerous brooks and rivulets being extremely favorable for the purpose.

On the west side of the town is a large tract of common land, called AMBERLEY, containing about 1000 acres, which was given for the use of the poor resident housekeepers of this parish, about the reign of Henry the Eighth, by Dame ALICE HAMPTON, who appears to have been the heiress of a respectable family of that name, of whom John de Hampton was Sheriff of this county, from the seventh to the eleventh of Edward the Second. This tract is also remarkable from being the site of a very singular *Encampment*. The great vallum is irregular, with smaller trenches branching from it. Its height varies, being at most about eight feet: it is composed of rubble stone, cemented, and coated with turf. "Commencing at Littleworth, it extends for nearly three miles to Woeful Dane Bottom; a smaller, skirting the brow of Nailsworth Hill, meets it at the eastern extremity: by a transverse vallation near the south-west point, an area of about ten acres square is inclosed, a circumstance observable in most *Saxon camps*."* Mr. Fosbrook conjectures that this encampment was made by the Danes, as a summer residence during the year 879, when they abode at Cirencester. The name, *Woeful Dane Bottom*, is probably allusive to some defeat sustained by the Danes on this spot, but not particularly recorded in history.

RODMARTON, a small village, of Roman origin, situated to the north of the Foss Way, was probably an advanced post to
the

* Bigland's Gloucestershire, Vol. II. p. 6.

the station at Cirencester. A *Tessellated Pavement*, and Roman coins, were discovered here in 1636, as appears from an entry in the register for that year, made by the Rev. Mr. Yate, who was then Rector. The entry is in Latin, and has been thus translated by Rudder: "This year, in a field called Hoc-berry, as the people were at plow, the plow-share turning up some tiles, discovered a Tessellated Pavement; and they found also some brass coins of the Emperors Antoninus and Valentinian. The inhabitants told me that they had oftentimes found brass and silver coins, but did not know what they were; and that they had heard their ancestors say, that Rodmarton was formerly removed from that place to where it now stands: however, it appears that there was once a Roman station here."* The ancient manor-house at Rodmarton, now the property of Charles Westley Coxe, Esq. forming three sides of a quadrangle, appears to have been built during the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. A view of it has been engraved for the "Collection of Gloucestershire Antiquities," by Mr. SAMUEL LYSONS. This gentleman, and his brother, Mr. DANIEL LYSONS, are natives of this parish.

At HASLEDON, near Rodmarton, was a Benedictine MONASTERY, founded about the year 1140, by Reginald de Waleric; but the monks afterwards removed to Tetbury, through scarcity of water. The Abbey-Barn is yet standing, and has the following inscription within the east porch:

ANNO DNI. MCCXC: HENRICI ABBATIS XIX: FUIT ISTUM
CONSTRUCTUM.

CIRENCESTER, OR CICETER,

As it is colloquially termed, appears to have been a town of importance from the remotest period of our annals, but particularly during the time of the Roman domination, when it was the metropolis of the DOBUNI, and the seat of a Roman colony. In the lists of British cities, given by Bede and Nennius, Cirencester is omitted;

* Rudder's Gloucestershire, p. 631.

omitted; but in a subsequent record, by Henry of Huntingdon, it occurs under the name of *Cæter Cori*; probably a contraction from *Caer Coryn*. The latter appellation appears to have been derived from the situation of the town on the river Coryn,* now called the Churn, which rises in the Cotswold Hills, and flows into the Thames near Cricklade. In the twelfth Iter of Antoninus, Cirencester is named *Duro-Cornovium*; this Mr. Gale supposed to be a corrupted reading, as both Ptolemy and Ravennas call it *Duro-Corinium*. The eligibility of this spot for a Roman station, is evinced by the circumstance of the Foss Way, the Irmin-Street, and the Icknield Way, all meeting here.

The present buildings of Cirencester occupy a part only of the ancient site, which extended more on the south-east side, and is now cultivated as meadow and garden ground. Here numerous vestiges of Roman occupation have been discovered at different times; and scarcely a year passes without some memorial of antiquity being found in the vicinity. The ancient city was inclosed by a wall and a ditch, the circumference of which, as demonstrated from the remains, was upwards of two miles. The fortifications are supposed to have been razed soon after the time of Henry the Fourth; but were not wholly obliterated, as appears from the following accounts.

Leland observes, that “a man may yet, walking on the bank of Churne, evidently perceyve the compase of foundation of towers sumtyme standing in the waul. And nere to the place wher the right goodly clothing mylle was set up a late by the Abbate, was broken down the ruine of an old tower, toward making of the mylle waulles, in the which place was fownd a quadrate stone sawllen down afore, but broken in many pieces, wherin was a Roman inscription, of the which one scantlie letterd that saw yt, told me that he might perceyve PONT MAX. Among divers coins fownd frequently there, Dioclesian's be most fairest; but I cannot adfirme the inscription to have been dedicate onto hym.

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In

* *Coryn*, in the British language, signifies the top, or summit, “and is very properly,” observes Rudder, “applied to this river, because it is the highest source of the Thames.”

In the middle of the old town, in a meadow, was found a flore *de tessellis versicoloribus*; and by the town in our time was found a broken shank-bone of a horse, the mouth closed with a pegge; the which taken owt, a shepard found yt filled with silver money. In the south south-west side of the waul be lykelyhod hath bene a castel, or sum other great building; the hilles and diches yet remayne. The place is now a waren for conys, and therein hath been found mrenne's bones of uncommon size, also to sepulchres of hewn stone. In one was a round vessel of leade covered, and in it ashes and peaces of bone."* The Abbot of Cirencester informed the above author, that he had found in the ruins, arched stones, sculptured with large Roman letters: and Hearne observes, that he had seen coins found here with a figure holding a patera in the right hand, and a palm branch in the left; and been informed of the discovery of a pavement before the year 1711, composed of many coloured tesserae. Sir Robert Atkyns mentions a variety of coins, and a building under ground accidentally discovered. "This was fifty feet long, and forty broad, and about four feet high; supported by 100 brick pillars, inlaid very curiously with tesseraick work, with stones of divers colors, little bigger than dice."

Dr. Stukeley, who visited Cirencester in the early part of the last century, observes, that the walls† might still be traced with tolerable

* Itin. Vol. V. p. 65.

† The course of the walls is thus particularly described among the Miscellaneous Notices relative to Cirencester, collected by the late Rev. J. Collinson, F. S. A. "The walls of the city may still be traced: they began eastward, at the bridge near the turnpike on the present London road, where, before 1382, 5th of Rich. 2. was a gate serving as a principal entrance to that quarter; then continued a course southward to the spot now called the Beeches, to the fulling-mill, which was built by Abbot Blake; they then continue about two miles further southward, and form an angle in a field called Chesterton Farm. In this field, in 1562, 3. Eliz. were dug up several Roman pillars with capitals, variously wrought, besides small fragments of what was then called a bath: these were removed to the Abbey, but are now lost. The vestiges are traced from the angle above mentioned to another mill, which stood, before the dissolution of the Abbey, toward the lower part of Watermore, crossing the road to Cricklade, where the

tolerable accuracy. The tract of ground called the *Leauses*, now converted into garden and corn fields, on the south-east side, where the principal antiquities are found, is supposed, by the Doctor, to have been the Roman Prætorium, from its name, which he derives from *Llis*, a British word, signifying a court. A more probable derivation is, however, obtained from the Saxon *Leswe*, *Leauses*, *Leasows*, or pasture ground. From this tract, he continues, "large quantities of carved stones are carried off yearly, to mend the highways, besides what are useful in building. A fine Mosaic Pavement was dug up here in September, 1723, with coins. I bought a little head, which had been broken off from a basso-relievo, and seems, by the *tiara*, of a very odd shape, like fortification work, to have been the genius of a city, or some of the *Deæ Matres*, which are in old inscriptions." The Doctor adds, that a vault was discovered sixteen feet by twelve; supported by pillars of Roman brick three feet six inches high, on which was a strong floor of terras: several other vaults adjoining, were shaded by cherry trees, and broken pillars, mouldings, cornices with carved modillions, bases, capitals, &c. were found strewed in indiscriminate confusion. Some of the stones were so strongly fastened by iron cramps, that they could only be separated by horses pulling in contrary directions. Among other remains mentioned by this author, is a stone inscribed as follows, and now preserved in a garden wall in Castle-Street.

D . M
IVLIAE CASTÆ
CONIVGI . VIX
ANN . XXXIII.

P p 2

This

the quadrate stone-work of the wall is still visible; and where, in the fourteenth century, were the ruins of a gate. From hence, continuing a small distance further, another angle is made towards the north, and the line passes through the work-house grounds, Sheepstreet-Lane, and the Castle Fields, to the road leading to Tetbury. We now pursue it through Lord Bathurst's park, intersecting Cicely Hill, and sweeping down to the Barton, where was the third angle of the wall, and where a tower stood as late as the reign of Charles the First, probably destroyed in the Civil Wars. From thence it was directed eastward, through the fields to the north of Lord Bathurst's mill, continued to Shepherds' Piece, and thus down the side of the Abbey wall, where this survey commenced."

This was found in a field called the *Querns*,* adjoining the town on the west, a little without the site of the Roman wall. Five such stones, continues our author, lay flatwise, upon two walls in a row, end to end; and underneath, probably, were the bodies of that family.† Many urns, and other antiquities, have been discovered, at different times, in the above field, particularly in the year 1786, on making an aqueduct for the supply of the Thames and Severn Canal. Among them was an urn of brown earthenware, nearly half full of burnt bones, inclosed in a case of lead, and about seven inches and a half in height; a style, with a flat end, for the purpose of obliteration; a fibulæ; an armilla of brass, found with four others on the arm of a skeleton; the bust of a young man in bronze; and another bust, apparently of Bacchus, which appears to have been used as a weight to a Roman Statera.‡

The ancient building, mentioned by Sir Robert Atkyns, and Dr. Stukeley, is supposed to have been discovered about 1683. The remains were afterwards covered up; and all remembrance of the place appears to have been lost till the year 1780, when some workmen, employed near the spot, dug up several flat bricks, which awakening curiosity, the discovery was pursued, and the remains were ascertained to belong to a *Roman Hypocaust*. In tracing the ruins, the workmen, at the depth of three feet and a half, discovered a floor of coarse mortar, extending about twelve feet to the north-east, where it was discontinued, and broken. Sinking deeper on that spot, “they came to another floor of terras, four feet five inches below the surface of the first, and running

* The *Querns* is probably a corrupted pronunciation for *Cairns*, as it is covered with small hills, “having the appearance of so many *tumuli*,” which Mr. S. Lysons supposes to be the remains of “stone quarries dug by the Romans for building the city, and making roads, and afterwards used as a burying-ground.” *Archæologia*, Vol. X. p. 132.

† *Itineraria Curiosa*.

‡ See *Archæologia*, Vol. X. where all the above articles are represented by engravings.

ning all the way under it; the upper floor being supported by rows of brick pillars, which stood upon that beneath. Having cleared away the earth from the second or last-mentioned floor, they came to a wall of hewn stone, rising within about two feet of the surface of the ground, at the distance of fifteen feet from the broken edge of the upper terras, which latter, it is evident, had originally extended to this wall: here seems to have been the boundary of the works on the north-east side: on the south-east side, they found another wall, making a right angle with the former. In each wall was observed five massy stones, forming the crown of an arch, the cavity of which lay almost entirely below the top of the second terras. In order to examine these arches, a small part of the under floor was beat up along the sides of the walls, and at the depth of thirty-four inches, a third strong floor of terras was discovered, running under the second; the space between being filled up with rough stones, thrown together in a promiscuous manner. This last served as a floor to the arches, which had nothing in them but rubbish, and at bottom a bed of wood-ashes, about two inches thick.”* A similar apartment, or vault, was found adjoining, on the south-east, but in a less perfect state; and vast quantities of flat bricks, and broken rubbish, was met with within a few feet. “The great strength and stability of the vaulting are remarkable. The upper floor of each vault is fourteen inches thick: the pillars are thirty-nine inches high, and eight inches and a quarter square; they consist of courses of entire bricks of the same superficial dimensions, and about one inch and three quarters thick, except that each pillar has a large brick, eleven inches square, for its base, and another, of the same size, by way of capital;†” they stand in rows at irregular distances; some being two feet asunder, and others not more than eighteen inches. Only twenty-two pillars are now standing; though originally there has been nearly double that number: all the lower parts display marks of long continued fires.

Among the Roman antiquities not already enumerated, that have been found in this vicinity, are coins of Antoninus, and

P p 3

Constantine;

* Rudder's Gloucestershire, p. 345,

† Ibid.

Constantine; a fine brass figure of Apollo, now in the Bodleian Library at Oxford; several small altars; a monumental stone, with the following inscription,

D M
P VICANAE
P VITALIS
CONJUX

various Tessellated Pavements; and a burial urn of glass, of a square form, discovered in a field called King's Mead, about half a mile from the town: the latter is in the possession of Dr. Parry, of Bath, and has been thus described by Mr. S. Lysons.

The urn "was wrapped in lead, and deposited in a stone hollowed out to receive it: it is of a greenish colour; not very transparent, but well moulded, having several raised circles on its bottom, quite smooth, without any appearance of ever having been fastened to a blowing iron, as all modern glass vessels are in the making. Its diameter at the top is five inches and three eighths; height, ten inches and one eighth; and width at the bottom, five inches and five eighths."* Within the urn were ashes, and pieces of burnt bones; and a flat stone covered the top. It was deposited in a piece of ground about twenty feet square, inclosed by a stone wall, and further secured by a pavement springing from the wall on every side, and rising in the centre over the urn, in the form of a very obtuse cone.†

One of the principal of the *Tessellated Pavements* was discovered in 1777, beneath a warehouse in Dyer-Street; but nearly half was destroyed by the workmen before it was observed. It measured about sixteen or eighteen feet square, and had a chequered border of fourteen inches in breadth, composed of blue and white tesserae, three quarters of an inch square. "The pavement was divided into four equal compartments, by lines of hearts linked together, or interlaced fretwise. The central pieces consisted of an octagon-wreathed border, inclosing a star, with wavy rays, directed to the angles of the octagon: and it had also a small figure

* *Archæologia*, Vol. X. p. 131.

† Rudder, p. 347.

figure of the same kind in the middle of each compartment: all besides within the borders and compartments consisted of chequered-work.”* The remains of this pavement were gradually destroyed by exposure to the atmosphere. It lay about six feet below the surface of the street; and was accompanied by fragments of painted walls belonging to the room which it had ornamented. An ancient road, running upon a level with this pavement, was at the same time found, about eight or ten yards to the north-east.

Another and more beautiful fragment, discovered in the same street, in digging a cellar to a house formerly belonging to the late John Smith, Esq. is yet preserved, in nearly as perfect a state as when found. It is composed of white, blue, red, and green tesserae, and represents sea monsters, various shell and sea fish, and parts of other figures, one of which is mounted on the back of a whale.†

The last antiquity we shall here mention belonging to this town, which appears to have any reference to the Roman times, is the *Bull-Ring*, a supposed Amphitheatre situated in the Querns, and thought to have obtained its present appellation from having been appropriated to the inhuman purposes of bull-baiting. It is thus described in the History of Cirencester: “The area is of an elliptical form, inclosed with a mound or wall of earth, about twenty feet high, very regularly sloped on the inside with rows of seats, like steps, one below another from top to bottom: these are overgrown with herbage, and defaced by time. The longest diameter of the area is about sixty-three yards, the other forty six: it has one avenue on the east side, and another on the west; and there is also a straight approach to it under ground, on the south, between stone walls about two feet and a half asunder, pointing to the centre of the area.”‡

P p 4

On

* History of the Ancient Town of Cirencester, p. 62.

† A drawing was made of this Pavement by S. Lysons, Esq. and presented to the Society of Antiquaries, who have had it engraved.

‡ On the east side of Cirencester is a large *Tumulus*, called TOR-BARROW HILL, which, Rudder observes, must certainly be the hill said to stand in Colton's

On the departure of the Romans, the government of this city reverted to the Britons, who probably retained it till the year 577, when, according to the Saxon Chronicle, it was wrested from them, together with Bath and Gloucester, by the West Saxons, Cuthwin and Ceawlin, who defeated the British Kings, Cournail, Condidan, and

ton's Field in the following extraordinary relation, which is contained in a printed account, entitled, a "Wonderful Discovery newly made of Houses-underground," &c. and preserved among the papers of Dr. Parsons in the Bodleian Library: it is dated in 1685.

"In a piece of ground within two miles of Cirencester, in the county of Gloucester, commonly known by the name of Colton's-Field, as two laborers were digging a gravel-pit at the foot of a hill, which they had now sunk four yards deep, they observed the ground on that side next the hill to be loose, and presently discovered an entrance into the belly of the hill; which appearing very strange to them, and rather the work of art than nature, one of them ventured a little way in, and by the light from the hole, discovered a large cavity; whereupon they got a lanthorn and candle to make a further search into it. By the advantage of this light, the first place they entered, appeared to have been a hall, which was large, and in it two tables with benches on each side, which they no sooner touched, to feel their substance, but they crumbled into dust. From thence they saw a passage into another room, which, by the furniture, had been a kitchen. Several utensils proper to it, as pots, kettles, &c. being of brass or iron, continued somewhat firm, but eaten through with rust and canker.

"Beyond the hall, they went into a parlour, furnished, according to the fashion of those times, with carpets richly wrought, and other furniture agreeable: these also fell to pieces upon their touching them. At one corner of this room, there appeared to have been a pair of stairs; but the earth had fallen in, and stopt the ascent. Going back into the hall, they observed another opening, which led them into a square room, ornamented with carved work in several parts, supposed to have been a place of worship and devotion, by images in the wall; and at the upper end of it, they found several urns, some of which had only ashes in them; others were filled with coins and medals, of gold, silver, and brass, with Latin inscriptions, and heads of several Roman Emperors.

"As they went searching about this room, they spied a door, which had been strongly patched with iron; but the wood being rotten, with a little force it fell in pieces; and looking in, to their great astonishment, they saw the image of a man in full proportion, with a truncheon in his hand, and a light, in a glass like a lamp, burning before him. This very much affrighted them at first, imagining it to be a devil in that shape, or a guardian spirit set there to defend

and Farinmail, in a great battle, fought at *Dyrham*, near Chipping Sodbury. After this period, however, if any credit could be given to the legend quoted by Holinshed, it was again possessed by the Britons, who were driven out by the singular stratagem of a Danish chieftain, named Gurmond, or Gurmundas: the tale as given by this author is as follows.

“ Anno

find some hidden treasure; the hopes whereof so far encouraged them at last, that one of them ventured a step in; but upon his first descent, the image seemed to strike at him; at which they were both so terrified, that they durst proceed no further; but went back, and taking many of the medals and coins with them, out of the urns, at night acquainted a gentleman, who is a famous Antiquary, with the discovery they had made, what they had seen, and the money they had found; shewing him several pieces; upon which he ordered them to keep the matter private, promising to go with them the next morning, which he accordingly did.

“ After he had viewed the other rooms with wonder and delight, they conducted him to the place where the image was, which he supposed might, by some great artist, be made to strike at certain times; therefore, without any apprehension of danger, went in; and, as before, upon his first step, the image made an offer to strike; so at the second step, but with a greater force: at the third step, it struck a violent blow on the glass, where the light was, which broke it in pieces, and quite extinguished it, (the light,) that, had they not been furnished with a lanthorn and candle, their condition would have been desperate. The image appeared to have been the effigy of some Roman General, by those ensigns of martial honour which lay at his feet. On the left hand lay two heads embalmed. The flesh was shrivelled up, and looked like parchment scorched, of a dark complexion. They had long hair on the chin; one seemed to be red, and the other black.

“ Upon further search were found several other passages, leading to other houses, or different rooms of the same house; but a hollow voice, like a deep sigh or groan, prevented any other discovery. Our adventurers hastily quitted those dark apartments, which they had no sooner done, than the hill sunk down, and buried all the rarities, except those medals and coins taken out the night before, which are now shewn for the satisfaction of the curious and ingenious, who in great numbers flock to see them, and purchase them at great rates, as most valuable relicks of antiquity.”

This singular tale, omitting the consideration of the internal evidence of its falsehood, has no support, either from tradition or history: its origin, most probably, was owing to an attempt to try how far credulity might be imposed on. Its similarity to the story of Rosicrucius's Sepulchre, as rehearsed by Addison in the 379th No. of the *Spectator*, is obvious.

“ Anno 586, Gurmundus appointing his brother Turgesius to pursue the conquest of Ireland, came and arrived here in Brytain, making such cruell warre in ayde of the Saxons against the Brittaines, that Careticus was constrained to keep himself within the citie of Cirencestre, and was there beseiged; and at length, by continued assaultes, and seiges, when he had lost maine of his menne, was glad to forsake that citie. Gurmonde took Cirencestre, and destroyed it in a most cruell manner, by a policie of warre, in binding to the feet of sparrows, which his people had caught, certain clewes of thred, or matches, finely wrought, and tempered ready to take fire, so that the sparrows, being suffered to go out of hand, flew into the towne, to lodge themselves within their nestes, which they had made in stackes of corne, or eaves of houses, so that the towne was thereby set on fire; and then the Brytons issuinge forth, fought with enemies, and were overcome, and discomfitted.”

Returning to more authentic testimony, we find that Penda, King of Mercia, endeavored to wrest Cirencester from the West Saxons, in the year 628; but, after a tremendous battle, fought in the vicinity, and terminated only by the darkness of night, he was obliged to make peace on the ensuing morning. Penda, his son, the first Christian King of Mercia, was more successful, as he obtained, and annexed it to the Mercian kingdom in the year 656. Between that period and the defeat of the Danish Chief Gothrum, at Eddington,* in Wiltshire, by King Alfred, in 879, nothing particular is recorded of this town; but, after the treaty made in consequence of Alfred's victory, Gothrum, and his followers, resided here, one whole year, previous to their departure for the eastern parts of the island. In 1020, a Great Council was held here by Canute, at which Duke Ethelwold was expelled his dominions.

In the reign of Stephen, Robert, Earl of Gloucester, half-brother to the Empress Maud, placed a garrison in Cirencester *Castle*, the first mention of which occurs at this period; but the King attacking it by surprise, it was taken, and burnt. Being afterwards restored, it was held by William de Dive, Constable to the Earl

of

* Beauties, Vol. I. p. 146.

of Leicester, who was then in arms in opposition to the King; but the Constable soon surrendered it, in order to procure more favorable terms for the Earl, his master. In the time of Henry the Third, the Castle was garrisoned by the Barons; but the King recovering it, issued his warrant for its total demolition. Notwithstanding the destruction of the Castle, Cirencester appears to have been considered as a place of strength; and King John assembled a large army here in the sixteenth of his reign. Edward the Second kept his Christmas here in 1322. In a military point of view, this town is most celebrated for the suppression of the insurrection of the Dukes of Aumerle, Surrey, and Exeter, the Earls of Gloucester and Salisbury, and their adherents, in the reign of Henry the Fourth. These noblemen had determined to assassinate the King during a tournament to be held in his presence at Oxford. Aumerle, dining with his father, the Duke of York, was discovered by him to have a paper concealed in his bosom: this he obtained, and on reading, found it to be the written plan, or compact, of the conspiracy. The Duke immediately ordered his horse to be saddled; but his son suspecting his purpose, rode first to the King, and obtained his pardon before his father's arrival. The other conspirators, aware of the discovery of their designs, assembled an army to surprise the Monarch at Windsor; but he being equally active, marched towards them with an army of 20,000 men. The insurgents retreated to Cirencester, where the chiefs took up their quarters in the town, but encamped their army without the walls.

At this critical period, the inhabitants, headed by the Bailiff, and a party of archers, assembled to the amount of 400 men, and seizing the gates, attacked the unsuspecting noblemen in their quarters. The Duke of Surrey, and the Earl of Salisbury, were taken, and beheaded; Exeter and Gloucester escaped to the camp, but found it deserted, the troops having fled on hearing the confusion in the town, and seeing some buildings in flames, which had been set fire to by some of the under conspirators to favor the escape of their chiefs. The particulars of this event are differently related: the account given by Thomas of Walsingham, and others,

is thus detailed in Holinshed's Chronicle. "They came to Cirencestre, in the dark of the night, and took up their lodgings. The inhabitants, suspecting the matter as the truthe was, they tooke thereupon counsaile together, and got them to armour, and stopped all the entries and out-gates of the inns where these new guesstes were lodged; insomuch, that when they, about midnight, sêcretlie attempted to have come forth, and gone their waies, the townsmen, with bow and arrowe, were ready to stay them, and keep them in. The Lordes perceaving the danger, got them to their armour and weapons, and did their best by force, to repulse the townsmen; but, after they had foughte from midnight till three of the clocke of the eveninge of the next day, they yeilded themselves to the townsmen; beseeching them to have their lives saved till they might come into the presence of the King. This requeste they had obtained, if a Priest, that was Chaplaine to one of them, had not, in the meane tyme, set fire on certain houses of the town, that, whiles the townsmen were busie to quench the fire, the Lords mighte find means to escape; but it came to nothing to passe as he imagined; for the townsmen, leaving all care to save their houses from the rage of the fire, were kindled more in furie towards the Lordes, and soe, to revenge themselves of them, they brought them forth of the Abbey, where they hadde them in their handes, and yn the twilight of the eveninge stroke off their heads."* The King, in reward for the essential service thus afforded him by the inhabitants of Cirencester, granted them all the property of the conspirators found in the town, except *plate*, *jewels*, and *money*; together with four does in season from Bradon Forest, and one hogsheaf of wine from Bristol, yearly, to the men;

* The following curious anecdote relative to the conspiracy occurs in a chronicle of Malmesbury Abbey, preserved in Leland's Collectanea, Vol. II. p. 310. Quidam de familiâ Regis HENRICI IV. jacebat unâ Nocte cum Meretrice Londini: quæ mane dixit sibi: "Vale Amice! quia amplius te non videbo!" "Et ille quæsit Quare?" "Quæ & dixit. Comites Huntingdune, Cantia, et Sarum, jacent in insidiis in partibus de Kingstone, ut Regem, Archiepiscopum, et vos venientes de Windsor occidant, et Regem RICHARDUM restituant." Et ille quæsit, "Unde hæc nosti?" Et illa dixit, "Unus

men; and six bucks, and a hogshead of wine, yearly, to the women, of Cirencester: the grant of the deer and wine to be revokeable at pleasure.

The inhabitants of Cirencester adopted the cause of the Parliament in the reign of Charles the First, and, in 1641, insulted Lord Chandois, then executing the commission of array as Lord Lieutenant of the county, by compelling him to sign a declaration, that he would not again attempt to enforce its execution. The town being esteemed the key of Gloucestershire from its strength, it being half encompassed by water, partly secured by a high wall, and the remainder of the circumference defended by strong works, it was decided that it should be secured for the Parliament; and such was the dependence placed upon the efforts of the garrison, that one of the officers declared the day before the attack, that he could keep possession of the place in defiance of 20,000 men. On the 21st of January, 1642, Prince Rupert made his first movement towards Cirencester; shortly afterwards it was invested; and on the second of February, the assault commenced. The conflict was severe, and both parties displayed address and courage; but the King's troops succeeded in forcing the town, in which, and the suburbs, the garrison lost 300 men killed, 1200 taken prisoners, and had 160 wounded. Colonel Fettiplace, the Governor, Captain Warneford, and Mr. George, Member for the borough, were amongst the prisoners. "The town," observes Clarendon, "yielded much plunder, from which the undistinguishing soldier could not be kept, but was equally injurious to friend and foe; so that many honest men, who were imprisoned by the rebels, found

de familiâ eorum dormivit mecum alterâ nocte, qui hæc mihi dixit." In English thus. One of the household of Henry the Fourth, having passed the night with a courtesan of London, was thus addressed by her in the morning. "Farewell, friend! I shall see you no more." He asked, Why? "Because," she replied, "the Earls of Huntingdon, Kent, and Sarum, are lying in ambush in the environs of Kingston, to kill the King, the Archbishop, and yourselves, at your coming from Windsor, and afterwards restore King Richard." "How know you this?" he enquired. She replied, "One of their retinue slept with me last night, and told me these things."

found themselves at liberty and undone together.”* In the year 1643, the town was recovered by the Parliament’s forces, commanded by the Earl of Essex, who attacked, and expelled the two regiments of horse, that garrisoned it under Sir Nicholas Crisp, and Colonel Spencer. The inhabitants were strong partizans of the Stuarts at the Revolution of 1688. This bias appears to have been principally excited by the influence of the Duke of Beaufort. The first blood shed at that period, was at Cirencester, where Captain Lorange, of the county Militia, attacked Lord Lovelace, then on his march to join the Prince of Orange: the Captain and his son were killed; but his men made Lovelace prisoner, and carried him to Gloucester gaol.

Cirencester was formerly celebrated for its rich ABBEY, which arose from a decayed *College* of Prebendaries, instituted in the early Saxon times, but “of what Saxon foundation,” says Leland, “no man can tell.” Rumbaldus, or Reimbaldus, Dean of this College, and Chancellor to Edward the Confessor, witnessed a grant of that Sovereign to the Abbey at Westminster. Leland mentions a “sepulchre Crosse,” of white marble, as remaining in the Abbey Church, with this inscription to his memory: *Hic jacet Rembaldus presbyter quondam hujus ecclesie Decanus*. Here also, as appears from the same author, the “Hart of Sentia,” wife to Richard, King of the Romans, and Earl of Cornwall, was deposited. The endowments of the College appear to have been given to the Abbey, which was founded in 1117, by Henry the First, for Canons Regular of the order of St. Augustine. Between that year and 1131, the monastic buildings were completed, and the Church was dedicated to St. Mary and St. John. The endowments were increased by Richard the First, who also invested the Convent with the jurisdiction of the district called the Seven Hundreds. These grants were confirmed by King John, who likewise granted some additional liberties; and further privileges were bestowed by Henry the Third; in whose forty-ninth year, Roger de Rodmarton, the tenth Abbot, was summoned to Parliament. Another Abbot was summoned to a Council at Carlisle in 1307,

the

* Book VI. p. 127.

the first of Edward the First; but the right of a seat among the Barons was not confirmed till the year 1416, when the mitre and pontificals were granted by the Pope, to William Best, the twenty-first Abbot. On the surrender of this Abbey, in 1539, its annual revenues were estimated at 1051l. 7s. 1½d. The Abbots are supposed to have had the privilege of coinage, from some small brass pieces of money that have been dug up at different times, within the Abbey precincts: on one of them, found in the year 1772, were three rams' heads, part of the Abbey arms; and round them this inscription: AVE . MARIA . GRACIA . PLEN: the reverse displayed a cross flory between four fleurs de lis, with the letters G. A. G. A. round the quarters. This was conjectured to refer to — George the twenty-fourth Abbot. The seventh Abbot was the celebrated ALEXANDER NEQUAM, or NECCHAM, who was born at St. Albans, and much celebrated for his learning, and proficiency in various kinds of literature. When desirous of becoming a novice in this Abbey, he applied to the Prior in the following laconical manner: *Si vis, veniam sin autem, tu autem:* to which he received this answer; *Si bonus sis, venias. Si nequam, nequaquam.** He died in 1217.

The Abbey Church, as appears from Leland, and William of Wyrcester, whose Itinerary was made in the reign of Henry the Sixth, was of the Saxon style of architecture; and, according to a manuscript preserved at Benet College, Cambridge, was 280 feet in length, and of proportionable dimensions. In the grant made by Henry the Eighth, to Roger Bassinge, Esq. of the site and buildings of the Abbey, he commands that all the edifices within

* Weever, p. 336. Camden, Rem. p. 160. "*Versus Alex. Neccham abbat̃is Cirencestr̃iæ ad Philippum Repingdon Abbatem Leicestrensem.*"

Phi! nota fætoris, lippus malus omnibus horis
Phi! malus et lippus, totus malus ergò PHILIPPUS.

Responsus.

Es niger et nequam, dictus cognomine NECCHAM
Nigrior esse potes—nequior esse nequis.

Coll. Arm. MSS. Vincent, No. 50. F. 493.

within the Abbey precincts should be pulled down, and carried away; and so effectually was the royal mandate obeyed, that even the spot occupied by the Church can hardly be ascertained; and all that now remains of the Abbey buildings, are the Almery Gate, the Spital Gate, and a large barn.* In the first of Edward the Sixth, the site of the Abbey, which had reverted to the Crown, was granted *in capite* to Thomas Lord Seymore, on whose attainder the Crown re-obtained possession: but Queen Elizabeth finally granted it, with its appendages of granges and lands, in consideration of the sum of 590l 16s. 3d. to Dr. Richard Master, the direct ancestor to the present proprietor, Thomas Master, Esq. who has twice represented the county in Parliament. The seat of this gentleman, now called the ABBEY, includes the site of most of the monastic buildings. The present house, a handsome edifice, erected in the year 1772, occupies the site of a mansion built by Dr. Master in the time of Elizabeth, a view of which was delineated by Kyp.

The CHURCH at Cirencester, dedicated to *St. John*, is one of the most magnificent parochial edifices in the Kingdom. It was completed but a few years prior to the suppression of the Abbey, yet the regular style of the fifteenth century is prevalent in every part. The interior consists of a nave, side aisles, a choir, or chancel, and five chapels: at the west end is a handsome embattled tower, 134 feet high, ornamented with pinnacles and statues; and on the south side is a beautiful *Porch*, richly decorated externally with grotesque figures, carved niches, canopies, oval windows, sculptured cornices, and open-worked battlements; and internally adorned by radiated tracery, spreading over the roof in eight circular fan-shaped compartments, which rise from single pillars,

* It is remarkable, that the Abbeys, the buildings of which were very extensive, if adjoining to country towns, have very rarely escaped a total dilapidation. Reading, which was contemporary with this, has scarcely more than a gateway remaining: Tewkesbury is in the same state; and Winchcombe is demolished in an equal degree. The inhabitants appear to have considered the ruins as quarries of stone ready formed to their hands, and to have had no scruple of appropriating them as convenience dictated.

pillars, and meet in the centre, where the lozenges formed by the extremes of the circles, are ornamented with circles of quatrefoils: the length of the porch is thirty-eight feet, its height fifty. The inside of the Church contains two rows of clustered columns, five in each; which, with two pilasters at each end, support the roof. Affixed to the capitals are cherubic figures, with escutcheons, and other armorial insignia of the contributors towards the erection of the building. The windows were formerly filled with painted glass; but a great deal having been mutilated, or misplaced, the chief part of what remained has been of late years collected from the others in the Church, and replaced in the great east and west windows, under the direction of S. Lysons, Esq. whose arrangement exceeds the original both in taste and beauty: a portrait on glass, in the latter window, is supposed to represent Richard, Duke of York, father to Edward the Fourth. Part of the painted glass now arranged in the chancel window, representing some of the Langley family, was brought from the Church at Siddington. The length of the nave is seventy-seven feet, and its breadth seventy-four: it is separated from the chancel by a gallery, or screen, containing a good organ, erected about ten or twelve years since by Green. Of the Chapels, that dedicated to *St. Catherine* is the most curious. This is situated on the north side, between the chancel and St. Mary's Chapel; and appears to have been originally separated from them by open arches, which are now walled up. The central compartments of its pendant roof are richly ornamented with a variety of sculptured foliage and roses, the arms of Henry the Seventh within the garter, and the cognizances of the King and Prince of Wales. The date, 1508, is also to be seen on the roof; and the initials, J. H. and mitre of Abbot Hakebourne; and T. R. the initials of Thomas Ruthall, or Rowthale, Bishop of Durham. These prelates were at the charge of building the roof; but the Chapel itself is supposed to have been founded by Richard Osmund, whose effigy, in stone, lies in a niche formed in the north wall, at the east end. Over an opposite niche, in the south wall, is a representation of the

Martyrdom of St. Catherine, painted in fresco:* the length of this Chapel is thirty-four feet; its breadth, thirteen.

The antiquary will be gratified in this Church by the sight of several very rich sepulchral *Brasses*. In others of the towns in the Cotswold district they are seen in equal perfection. The merchants in wool, for which it was so celebrated, traded in the fifteenth century with the manufacturers in Flanders, where these brasses were made, and given in exchange. Though, as portraits of the persons they commemorate, they are purely imaginary, it is curious to observe the strict costume of habits according to the rank in life of those they purpose to represent. Three of the most remarkable of these have been delineated by Mr. Lysons. They are in Trinity Chapel, and represent William Prelatte, Esq.† and his two wives. The former “appears in plated armour, with a gorget of mail, having a dagger on his right side, and a long sword across his middle.” The ladies have the mitred head-dress of that age, with veils; long loose gowns, with close sleeves, and cuffs of ermine: at their feet are little dogs, with collars of bells.”‡ Beneath is an inscription in black letter, with the date 1462.

Many other inscriptions and monuments are contained in the different parts of this edifice. In the Chapel of St. John is a handsome tomb to the memory of GEORGE MONOX, Esq. Merchant, and Sheriff of London, who died 1638, and bequeathed 100*l.* and a tenement, for the benefit of the poor, and to support a lecture in this Church: another monument, in the chancel, was erected to commemorate SIR THOMAS HARRISON, Knt. Chamberlain of the city of London, 1765. In St. Mary’s Chapel is a curious monument, with the effigies of HUMFREY BRIDGES, and ELIZABETH,

* Lysons’ Gloucestershire Antiquities, p. 20. pl. LXI.

† Among the gentry of this county returned by the Commissioners for the Preservation of the Peace in the year 1434, twelfth of Henry the Sixth, is “William Prelatte of Cirencester.” It appears, likewise, from the manuscripts of Lantony Abbey, at Holm Lacey, that he was Efedor, or Steward, for manors in this county belonging to Lady Stafford, and Bergavenny, in the same reign.

‡ Lysons’ Gloucestershire Antiquities, pl. XVI.

ELIZABETH, his wife; these are arrayed in the habits of the times, 1598 and 1620. He left 40s. per annum to the poor of Cirencester; and Mrs. Bridges six houses, for as many widows, with pensions of 6s. per week. Here, also, are many inscriptions for the family of MASTER. In Trinity Chapel is a marble monument, with the busts of ALLEN, EARL BATHURST, and his LADY, and a weeping figure between them: this Nobleman, who was himself a man of learning and genius, was the intimate friend of Atterbury, Pope, Swift, Addison, and many of the distinguished literati of his time. He represented this borough in Parliament from the year 1705, till 1711, when Queen Anne raised him to the Peerage. He afterwards became Captain of the Band of Gentlemen Pensioners, but resigned in 1744. In 1757, he was appointed Treasurer to his present Majesty, then Prince of Wales, by whom, in 1772, he was created Earl Bathurst, of Bathurst, in Sussex. He died at the advanced age of 91, in September 1775. Pope has very justly complimented this Nobleman in the following lines:

Oh! teach us, Bathurst! yet unspoil'd by wealth!
That secret rare, between th' extremes to move
Of mad good-nature, and of mean self-love.

Adjoining the former monument, is another to the memory of the Earl's son, the LORD CHANCELLOR BATHURST, who died in 1794, aged 80; and whose bust is placed on the top.

On the outside of the Church, under the parapet of the north side of the nave, is a range of curious sculpture, representing a series of figures, chiefly habited as minstrels, with various instruments of music practised in the fifteenth century. This is an extremely interesting specimen, if it be remembered that we have no accurate knowledge of the musical instruments of the Greeks and Romans, but that collected from their bas-reliefs and statues. Of the same era, likewise, are twenty-three statues of minstrels with their instruments, placed over the columns on either side of the nave, in the Cathedral of York; but the execution and variety of the latter are superior. The figures at Cirencester represent the

characters of a *Whitsun Ale*: one of them, supposed to be the lord of the feast, is arrayed in a hunting dress, having a cap with feathers, a bugle horn, and in his left hand, an arrow; in his right, he carries a scroll, with an inscription, which has been read

THE GERRIE.*

Under the parapet, on the south side, is another range of sculptured figures, conjectured, by Mr. Carter, to represent some of the characters in the old mysteries, or moralities, which, at the time of the erection of this fabric, were the favorite amusements of the people: among them is a figure of Death, a Monk, an Abbot, a King, a Prize-Fighter with a sword and dagger, an Angel, &c. The best situation for inspecting these sculptures, is the leads above the aisles.

The coincidence of parts in this Church, renders it evident that it was built from an original design, regularly pursued from its commencement to its completion; though the arms of the contributors, from their different dates, prove it to have been many years in hand. The tower, observes Mr. Bigland, "was certainly built before 1416, as the arms of France (over the great window) is several fleurs de lis on an escutcheon affixed, which was last used by Henry the Fourth. William de Wyrcestre gives the dimensions of it in 1460." The nave was only completed in the time of John Blake, the last Abbot: Alice Avenynge, aunt to Bishop Ruthall, contributed greatly towards the expences; she also gave 100 marks towards the erecting of the south porch. The funds bequeathed for repairing the Church produce 67l. 9s. 4d. yearly.

Cirencester

* In Carter's *Ancient Sculpture and Painting*, are engravings of these figures, accompanied by a very particular and curious description. The sculptures on the south side, which are not so generally noticed, are also engraved, and particularly described in the same work. The *Whitsun Ale* is still commemorated in some of the villages in this part of Gloucestershire. At these meetings the dramatis personæ are represented by the peasantry, dressed in the characters of a lord, his lady, steward, purse-bearer, fool, &c. The day is passed in festivity, and dancing; and generally occasions the assemblage of all the inhabitants in the vicinity.

Cirencester has several Schools: The most ancient of which is the *Free Grammar School*, founded by BISHOP RUTHALL, who was a native of this town, and an eminent Privy Counsellor to Henry the Seventh. The Master is appointed by the Lord Chancellor, in consequence of a decree in chancery, which originated from a contested election between forty and fifty years ago. Queen Mary increased the endowments by the grant of 20l. per annum, payable from the Exchequer. Several eminent persons have been educated at this School; and among them we enumerate the far-famed Dr. Jenner, inventor of the Vaccine Inoculation; Dr. Parry, Physician at Bath; and the Rev. James Dallaway, M.B. Secretary to the Earl Marshal, and author of several esteemed works. Of late, the dissensions among the feoffees, and others, have caused the reputation of the school greatly to decline. The *Blue Coat School* was established by subscription in 1714. Four years afterwards, Thomas Powell, Esq. endowed it with 15l. part of an annuity payable from the Exchequer for ninety-nine years, and a moiety of the profits of Maskelyne's Ham in Cricklade: "And the Court of Chancery, in 1137, appropriated 20l. a year out of the estates bequeathed to Mrs. Powell, for erecting and endowing a charity school, or schools, in this parish, for the support of this school; and in 1744, appointed the produce of 562l. 7s. 6d. to be paid yearly for the benefit of this school, as a provisional supply after the expiration of the annuity out of the Exchequer. The children are elected by the Minister for the time being; seldom under eight years old, or above eleven; and they continue in it not more than three years." The *Yellow Coat School* was founded under the will of Mrs. Rebecca Powell, who died in 1722, for teaching twenty boys, of Cirencester, reading and arithmetic, and the art of frame-work knitting; and for clothing, teaching, and learning twenty girls to spin: after much delay, by different applications to the Court of Chancery, Mr. Thurston, one of the Masters, made his report of the plan in 1737, fifteen years after the death of the testatrix. The School was then commenced, and has continued with various success to the present time.

Among the other charitable institutions are three Hospitals. That dedicated to *St. John* was founded by Henry the First: the revenues, amounting to between thirty and forty pounds, arise principally from reserved rents in the town, and some scattered pieces of land: the alms-people have 4l. 9s. per annum each. This Hospital is situated on the north-east side of Gloucester-street, over a crypt, with round pillars, partly buried in the earth: six of the apartments were reserved for the inmates, and the remainder let for the benefit of the institution; but the building falling into decay, through neglect, six cottages have been erected on the hospital land, in Spital-gate-lane, for the Alms-people. *Saint Lawrence's Hospital*, on the west side of Gloucester-street, is said to have been founded by Edith, Lady of the Manor of Wiggold, but at what period is unknown. The three sisters of this charity receive 5l. 2s. 6d. per annum each, from a revenue the produce of several detached pieces of land, and reserved rents from twenty-one houses and two gardens in Cirencester. Earl Bathurst is Governor of the institution. *St. Thomas's Hospital*, situated in the street of that name, was erected and endowed by Sir William Nottingham, Attorney-General in the reign of Henry the Fourth. The four poor weavers, who receive the benefit of this charity, have each a small apartment; but the revenue left by Sir William is no more than 6l. 18s. 8d. payable from an estate in the parish of Thornbury. Various other donations for benevolent purposes have been made to the inhabitants of this town.

The manufactures of Cirencester seem generally in a declining state, with the exception of that for *Curriers' knives*, which are made by three or four houses in this town; by one at Gloucester; and at scarcely any where else in the kingdom: these knives are highly valued throughout Europe and America. Here is a company of weavers, but none of the company's transactions have the least relation to weaving; and there is only one clothing-house. A small Carpet manufactory, and two Breweries, furnish some employment. The markets are well supplied, particularly with corn and meat; and are much frequented. Formerly, great quantities of wool, brought from Buckinghamshire, Berkshire, Northamptonshire,

tonshire, and Oxfordshire, were sold at the *Boothall*, where large rooms were provided for its reception; but the modern practice of the dealers themselves travelling to purchase, has effectually destroyed this market. Three fairs are held here annually; and also two *mops*, or statute markets, on the Mondays preceding and following October the tenth; and if that day happens to be Monday, it is also a *mop* day. These markets are very much thronged by farmers, and others, who attend in order to hire laboring persons and servants; the latter wear badges, in the hat or bosom, of whipcord, wool, or cow-hair; thus describing themselves as candidates for the respective services of carter, shepherd, dairy-maid, &c.

At the time of the Domesday Survey, the district called the Hundred of Cirencester, included several villages; but Henry the Fourth made the town a distinct hundred, as it still remains; excluding the Abbey, the Almery, and Spiringate-Lane. He also made it a corporate town, and invested its government in a Mayor, two Constables, &c. but his charter, after a suit in the Exchequer, was cancelled in the thirty-seventh of Elizabeth. The hundred is divided into seven wards; and the Steward of the manor annually appoints two high Constables, and two petty Constables, for each ward, with the other necessary officers. An ancient court, for cognizance of debts under 40s. was abolished in 1792, and a Court of Requests established by Act of Parliament for this manor, and the district called the Seven Hundreds of Cirencester. Representatives were sent from this borough to a Great Council in the eleventh of Edward the Third; but the first regular return to Parliament was made in the year 1571, under a grant of the thirteenth of Elizabeth. The right of election has been limited, by different decisions of the House of Commons, to the inhabitant householders of the borough not receiving alms: the number of voters is about 500. The borough and hundred are commensurate.

Cirencester is celebrated for the salubrity of its air, and general healthfulness. It consists of four principal, and seven less considerable streets, besides several lanes, extending over an area of about two miles in circumference. The buildings are chiefly of stone; and the more respectable houses are pretty generally de-

tached. The population at the beginning of the last century, amounted to nearly 4000; and has very little increased since that period; the number of inhabitants, as ascertained by the Act of 1801, being returned at 4130: the number of houses was 885. The streets, excepting on the south side, have a very gradual descent from the centre to the extremities. The water for domestic purposes is very good, and arises from a fine gravel at the depth of fifteen or twenty feet, in such plenty, that almost every house has a pump or well.

Richardus Coriniensis, or RICHARD OF CIRENCESTER, so called from being a native of this town, was the compiler of the celebrated *Itinerary*, part of which, relative to England, was published under his name, by Dr. Stukeley. He was a Monk of Westminster; and is registered on the Chamberlain's list for 1355, preserved among the Abbey records, by the name *Circestre*. Between that period and the year 1400, in which he died, he composed several elaborate works on Saxon and British history; taking great pains to render them accurate, by travelling to most of the libraries in the kingdom for reference to original manuscripts. He also made a journey to Rome, for the purpose of obtaining information; and the original license for permission is still preserved among the Abbey records. His *History of Roman-Britain*, containing the *Itinerary*, was discovered at Copenhagen in 1747, by Mr. Bertram, a correspondent of Dr. Stukeley's, through whose solicitations the whole work was published in that city in the year 1758. Gibbon thought so highly of this work, that he styles it, "A wonderful performance for a Monk of that age." Several manuscripts, by Richard, are in different libraries in Great Britain.

The manor of Cirencester was part of the ancient demesnes of the Crown: Richard the First granted it to the Abbey. After the Dissolution, it passed through the hands of Thomas, Lord Seymour, and Sir Anthony Kingstone, to Sir John D'Anvers, whose son Henry, Earl of Danby, built a house on the site of Earl Bathurst's present mansion. The manor and hundred were afterwards sold to Henry Poole, of Saperton, whose son, Sir William Poole, assigned them, in the year 1645, to his mother in lieu of

dower. Her daughter, Anne, conveyed them to James, Earl of Newburg, whom she afterwards married. Charles, his son and heir, left them to his widow, Frances, by whom they were sold, in the year 1695, to Sir Benjamin Bathurst, great grand-father of Earl Bathurst, the present proprietor: the estate was afterwards enlarged by Allen, first Lord Bathurst.

OAKLEY GROVE, the seat of Henry, Earl Bathurst, lies on the west of Cirencester. The mansion is only a small distance from the town, the view of which is intercepted by a lofty wall, lined with perennial trees. It was built early in the last century, and though very spacious, is more convenient than grand. The plan is French, with a large hall in the centre, and rooms *en suite*, like Petworth, in Sussex, erected about the same time, by Charles, Duke of Somerset. The east front is of free-stone, and of great length; the west front has been lengthened by a portico and wings, added under the direction of the present Earl; who has also much improved the whole building. Among the portraits which decorate the interior, the following may be selected as more particularly deserving attention.

THOMAS, LORD CLIFFORD, of Chudleigh, so created in 1672, and who died in the ensuing year. He was Lord High Treasurer, when he advised his Royal master, Charles the Second, to shut up the Exchequer: his Initial forms the first letter of the CABAL; Clifford, Arlington, Buckingham, Ashley, and Lauderdale.

HENRY BENNET, Earl of Arlington, Lord Chamberlain, obiit 1685. His character is admirably drawn in the Memoirs of the Count de Grammont.

HENRY JERMYN, Earl of St. Albans, Steward of the Household, and afterwards privately married to Henrietta, relict of Charles the First.

COLONEL WILLIAM ASHBURTON, second son of Sir John Ashburton, Cofferer to Charles the First, and Second; this is a very spirited and highly-finished portrait.

MR. HENRY BROUNKER, brother of WILLIAM, Lord Viscount Brounker, of the kingdom of Ireland, the first President of the Royal Society, for whom this portrait has been mistaken by
Granger,

Granger, in his Biographical History. He was Gentleman of the Bed-Chamber to the Duke of York, and died in 1687. His character, which was that of an accomplished libertine, is very ably sketched by the lively pencil of Count de Grammont.*

MR. BAPTIST MAY, Keeper of the Privy Purse to Charles the Second, and one of his most convivial companions. The gossip, Antony à Wood, relates several anecdotes of him in his own life.

The above are all whole lengths by Sir Peter Lely. They are pourtrayed in the full dress of the times, with flowing vests; and were procured by Lord Bathurst's ancestor, Sir Allen Apsley, Vice Chamberlain to Charles the Second, and the friend of his convivial hours. Among the half-lengths by the same artist, are very attractive portraits of a few of the beautiful individuals who composed the female society of that laughter-loving Monarch. These are rather noticed for their excellence than for their rarity, as Lely, and the other painters who were encouraged in Charles's court, availed themselves of very frequent opportunities of pourtraying his favorites.

BARBARA VILLIERS, Duchess of Cleveland;† delineated as St. Barbara, bearing the emblems of martyrdom, a sword, and a palm branch. This 'soul of whim' once sent her portrait, in the above character, to the Nuns of Abbeville, in France, who, on detecting the intended imposture, returned it with great indignation.‡

LOUISE

* "C'étoit l'homme de la cour, qui avec le moins d'estime pour le beau sexe, avoit le moins de miséricorde pour sa réputation. Il n'étoit point jeune, sa figure étoit désagréable; cependant avec beaucoup d'esprit, il avoit un penchant infini pour les femmes. Il se rendoit sur son mérite, et persuadé qu'il ne pouvoit réussir qu'auprès de celles qui voudroient de son argent, il étoit en guerre avec toutes les autres. Il avoit à quatre ou cinq milles de Londres une petite maison de campagne, toujours meublée de quelques grisettes. Du reste fort homme du bien, et le premier joueur du Royaume. *Mém. de Gram.* p. 230.

† See Beauties, Vol. I. p. 215.

‡ The celebrated *Magdalene* by Le Brun, in the Carmelites' Church at Paris, so long supposed to have been a portrait of Madame de la Valiere, has not the slightest resemblance to others which are known to be genuine.

LOUISE de QUEROUAILLE, (called by the English Carwell,) Duchess of Portsmouth; still more beautiful than the preceding.

ELEANOR GWYNN, represented as corpulent, and advanced in years. When she became more immediately connected with the King, she nobly belied the baseness of her origin, and the seminaries of vice in which she had been bred: she remembered her former friends, and did them service, and was equally the favorite of the Prince and People. In her person she was low in stature, light-haired, and had remarkably lively eyes; but so small, as to become scarcely visible when she laughed. The vivacity of her conversation, and the solid sense it discovered, made her a constant companion at the King's suppers with Rochester, Brouncker, and Baptist May, whose licentious discourse she is said to have restrained. Her general conduct was so respectable, that Archbishop Tennison thought her worthy of panegyric in a sermon which he preached at her funeral.* Another half length, by Lely, of CHARLES THE SECOND, is a likeness very faithfully ugly; from which circumstance he was called *Old Rowley*. This appellation was derived from the name of a very ill-looking hunter, then kept with the other horses in the King's Mews, and whose progeny was remarkably beautiful.

JOHN WILMOT, Earl of Rochester, by Henry Gascar, is represented in a loose coat of scarlet, a wig, and falling cravat, richly laced. In another original painting of this dissolute nobleman at Warwick Castle, he is delineated as crowning a monkey with laurel, which he had detected tearing his manuscripts.

Of ALLEN, Earl Bathurst, there is no portrait taken within the more advanced stages of life, or when his longevity had taught us almost to venerate a character so deservedly admired. He is merely represented in his robes of state, soon after he was advanced to the peerage, with eleven others, in 1711, by one act of the prerogative of the Crown; a precedent which it has since been found expedient to follow, and to exceed. His associates in genius, and in literary as well as political pursuits, BOLINGBROKE, PRIOR, ATTERBURY, and POPE, may be seen here, not only pourtrayed
with

* See Beauties, Vol. I. p. 314 and 341.

with glowing faithfulness, but ideally assembled under that very roof which they so often dignified by their presence. Kneller was mercenary, but he could paint his own friends, as in this instance, with the ardor of truth. He had given Pope delineations in Chiaro-scuro of the Apollo Belvidere, the Venus de Medicis, and the Hercules Farnese, and was complimented in return with the following verses, abounding in Italian *concelto*.

What God, what genius did the pencil move
 When Kneller painted these?
 'Twas friendship, warm as Phœbus, kind as Love,
 And strong as Hercules!*

These pictures were bequeathed by the poet to his noble friend, Lord Bathurst, and are yet preserved here. Of the foreign masters, this collection contains but few specimens. Two large Landscapes, with sheep and figures, twelve feet by ten, by Rosa da Tivoli, are extremely fine; and here is another very striking picture of RUBENS, *en famille*, as he delighted to paint himself. Rubens himself is represented as a Satyr; his wives as the three Graces; and an old female domestic is portrayed blowing a firebrand: this was probably executed by one of Rubens' best scholars. Besides the above, various family portraits are contained in this mansion; and also a cast, in plaister, of ALLEN, Lord Bathurst, from which two busts have been executed: one is in the Temple of Friendship, at Stowe; and the other, by Nollekins, on his Lordship's monument in Cirencester Church.

The Park and grounds are indebted for their origin to this nobleman, who was engaged in converting an uncultivated down into its present state, at the same period that his friend, Lord Cobham, was creating Elysian Fields at Stowe. The sameness of the surface at Cirencester, rendered a picturesque effect difficult, if not wholly impracticable; but the improvements that were made,
 confer

* These stanzas, omitted in Warburton's edition of Pope's Works, appear in Walpole's Anecdotes of Painting. Dr. Warton recites them only in a note, (Vol. II. p. 382) and mentions that they were never published by Pope, who was, perhaps, aware of their inferiority.

confer a superior credit on Lord Bathurst, who was one of the first to explode the formalities introduced by Le Nautre, under the influence of King William: the praise of priority of design is certainly due to him; for till the art of modern gardening had been introduced by Kent and Brown, and applied in so universal a degree, this park was unrivalled, excepting by that at Stowe, and by Mr. Pelham's at Esher. When Pope associated Lord Bathurst with Lord Burlington, he could not, in justice to his own taste, draw any comparison between them as architects; he therefore judiciously attributed to each his peculiar merit:

“ Who plants like Bathurst, and who builds like Boyle?”

With the liberality by which the former nobleman was distinguished through life, he extended the advantages of his place to the public, by allowing uninterrupted access; an indulgence which has been continued by his successors. This expansion of mind is much more common on the Continent, particularly in Italy, than with us; and the ease with which the interior of palaces, and even cabinets of curiosities, are there inspected, increases the gratification.

The embellished division of these grounds, consists of a series of linear terraces, flanked by plantations of shrubs and evergreens, and adorned with a few small buildings, of little other merit than as they afford shelter, and mark the distances: near the park wall, a path, finely shaded by beech and other trees, runs upwards of a mile in a serpentine direction. The original plan of what is now called the “ Wood House,” was probably suggested by Pope, as may be inferred from a passage of a letter from Bishop Atterbury to the poet. “ May my Lord have as much satisfaction in building the House in the Wood, and in using it when built, as you had in designing it.”* At some distance from the House, on the south-west, is a small artificial lake. The pleasure grounds have been improved under the direction of the present Earl. Within the park is an ancient circular tumulus, called *Grismond's Tower*,
about

* Warton's edit. Vol. VIII. p. 100.

about twenty feet high; in which, about thirty or forty years ago, several urns were found, containing ashes and burnt bones.

In the Park is an ancient *Stone Cross* which formerly stood in the lesser market-place in Cirencester, and was removed hither a few years ago. On the base is some rude ornamental carving; and round the capital of the shaft, which is octangular, and about thirteen feet high, were four shields of arms, now nearly obliterated.

Connected with the Park, about two miles on the road to Stroud-water, a majestic woodland stretches itself, called Oakley, planted by Lord Bathurst, the shade of which he lived to enjoy with philosophic calmness.

Ingentem meminit parvo qui germine quercum
Æquævumque videt consenuisse nemus.

CLAUDIAN.

A neighbouring wood born with himself he sees,
And loves his own contemporary trees.

COWLEY.

Here, nearly from the centre, ten very ample and extensive avenues diverge, but the terminations are not made in every instance by objects of importance. These were planted in a radiated form, in emulation of the groves of Chantilli, and others in France, so laid out as producing an extraordinary effect of grandeur, under the auspices of Louis the Fourteenth. The more frequent and beautiful trees are large beech, and fir, in every stage of growth and foliage. In the deepest recess stands a modern Ruin, which, from a tradition of Saxon history, is called *Alfred's Hall*; and conjectured, by a convenient fiction, to have been the place where Alfred signed the treaty with Gothrum the Dane. An inscription in the Saxon characters and language, opposite the south entrance, and a Latin translation over the south door, give plausibility to the tale; which most probably originated from the similarity of *Achælie*, the ancient name of this place, to *Æglea*, the appellation of that where Alfred rested his army the night before the battle at Eddington. This ruin has no prototype, nor does it resemble any castle of any age or country: the walls, however, are

now very happily invested with ivy, and the shade is delightful in a sultry day. Lord Bathurst was not so successful in this imitation as Lord Cobham at Stowe, though even there the Gothic temple is of no definite style nor era. When Lord Bathurst first planted Oakley in the beginning of the last century, the subjecting of a whole district of country to the one grand mansion occurred but in a few instances.

SIDDINGTON ST. PETER, called also *Siddington Langley*, from a family of that name, who were proprietors of the manor for many generations, is a small village, occupying a low situation on the banks of the river Churn. The *Church*, dedicated to St. Peter, has a handsome chapel or aisle on the north side, built, in the fifteenth century, by Edmund Langley. In this Chapel are various escutcheons, with the arms of the Langleys, round the arched recesses on the wall, where many of the family were buried. The arch which separates the nave and chancel, is in the pointed form, though decorated with zig-zag mouldings. The south door-way is in the Saxon style, and has two columns on each side: the capitals of the inner columns are grotesque heads; and the moulding springing from them is also ornamented by a series of heads, of singular and various forms. Within the arch is a mutilated sculpture, in bas-relief, representing Our Saviour, and a Saint kneeling on each side of him. The painted glass of the Langley family, which formerly adorned the windows of this fabric, has been removed to Cirencester Church, by permission of Earl Bathurst, the present Lord of the Manor.

SOUTH CERNEY, like Siddington, is chiefly remarkable for the architecture of its *Church*, which is dedicated to All-Hallows, and consists of a nave, chancel, and aisle on the north, with a semi-transept; and in the centre a low tower, terminated by a spire. This is an ancient and very curious building: the arch, which separates the nave and chancel, is pointed, having zig-zag* and plain

* The adaptation of the zig-zag moulding to the pointed arch, as in this instance, and at Siddington St. Peter, prevailed soon after its introduction, in the reign

plain mouldings rising from slender columns, with rich capitals of foliage: within the chancel is a piscina, with a canopy of foliage curiously carved. The south door-way is richly embellished in the Anglo-Norman style: the arch is circular, having diversified mouldings supported by columns, with singularly heavy capitals. The weathering, or outer moulding, is terminated on each side by a grotesque head: the next moulding is zig-zag; and within that is a series of heads, animal and human, singularly rude and disproportioned.*

DOWN AMNEY is situated near a rivulet called Ampney Brook, on the extreme verge of the county, adjoining Wiltshire. At the period of the Domesday Survey, the manor was held by Radulph de Toden; but was afterwards annexed to the Crown. In the year 1250, Edward Crouchback, Earl of Lancaster, second son of Henry the Third, granted it in fee to Nicholas de Villers, or Veleres, the common ancestor of the noble family of Villiers, Duke of Buckingham, of the Earls of Jersey and Clarendon, and of the Earl of Grandison in Ireland: this family retained it till the thirty-fifth of Edward the Third. About the beginning of the reign of Richard the Second, it was purchased by Sir Thomas Hungerford, the first standing Speaker of the House of Commons, who obtained liberty of free warren in the year 1385. His descendants continued possessors till about the year 1645, when Bridget, daughter and heiress of Sir Anthony Hungerford, Knt. conveyed it, by marriage, to Edmund Dunch, Esq. afterwards Baron Burnel, of Little Wittenham, Berkshire. From this family it passed, by purchase, to James Craggs, Esq. Secretary of State
to

reign of Henry the Third; but was abandoned when the style became purer, and better understood. The door-cases of Siddington St. Peter, South Cerney, Bishop's Cleeve, Quenington, and Elkstone, are extremely curious. Those of Siddington St. Peter, Quenington, and Elkstone, having entablatures with bas-reliefs, may be referred to as early a period as that of Edward the Confessor; the others are of the Norman style, as introduced after the Conquest.

* This door-way, as well as the arch of the chancel, is represented in Lysons' Gloucestershire Antiquities; which also contains views of the painted glass, and of the south door-way, of Siddington St. Peter.

to George the First, who bequeathed it to his natural daughters, by the youngest of whom it was conveyed in marriage to the *Eliots*, of Port Eliot, in Cornwall, in which family it yet remains.

The *Manor-House* has been lately repaired and modernized, and, in consequence, lost many traces of its ancient character. It was erected by the Hungerfords, and chiefly by Sir Anthony Hungerford, in the reign of Henry the Eighth, though some parts appear of an earlier date. The portal, or gateway, was flanked by octangular turrets, embattled, and embellished with the arms and cypher of Sir Anthony: upon the wainscot of the hall, which is of small compartments filled with mantles, are many grotesque mouldings, and the date 1537.*

The *Church*, dedicated to All Saints, is said to have been built by the Knights Templars, to whom the impropriate tythes were granted by Edward the First, about the year 1260, assisted by the gifts of Sir Nicholas de Villers. It consists of a nave, chancel, transept, and side aisles, with an embattled tower, terminated by a spire, at the west end. Under the window at the south end of the transept, is the tomb of SIR NICHOLAS DE VILLERS and his Lady, whose effigies are represented beneath an "arch of the ogee form, which prevailed during the greater part of the fourteenth century, especially in the tombs of the crusaders."† Sir Nicholas, who was much renowned for his martial achievements, had accompanied Edward the First, in his wars in the Holy Land, and elsewhere, and is represented as a croisader, in mail and surcoat; with his legs crossed, his feet resting on a lion, and his right hand on the hilt of his sword: on his left arm is a shield, bearing the cross of St. George, charged with five escallops. This figure is of a hard blue stone; that of the Lady is of free-stone, and much mutilated: she is represented with her hands crossed upon her breast, and her head supported on a pillow. Below the effigies of the Knight, is an inscription in the Saxon character, much defaced, but appearing to have been as follows:

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* Bigland's Gloucestershire, Vol. I. p. 490.

† Lysons' Gloucestershire Antiquities, p. 3, and pl. VI.

Hic jacet Nicholas de Wiffers qui obiit ꝑ . . . die
 mensis Junij Anno Domini M.CC.LXXXXIIII
 Ejus anime propicietur Deus: Amen.

The manor of KEMPSFORD was, in the reign of Edward the Confessor, the property of Earl Harold; but was afterwards granted, by the Conqueror, to Ernulf de Hesding, a Norman soldier, who had accompanied him to England. Ernulf was succeeded in possession by the family *De Cadurcis*, or Chaworth, from whom it passed, by marriage, to Hugh le Despencer, in the reign of Edward the Second. Maud, daughter of Isabel, and relict of Patrick de Chaworth, afterwards inherited, and conveyed it, by marriage, to Henry, Earl of Lancaster, whose son and successor, Henry, Duke of Lancaster,* granted it, in the year 1355, to the College of St. Mary the Great, in Liecester, which his father had founded for a Dean and Prebendaries: to that foundation it continued attached till the Dissolution, when it was seized by the Crown. Edward the Sixth granted it, in his third year, to Sir John Botteville, otherwise Thynne, whose descendant, Thomas, the present Marquis of Bath, sold it to the late Gabriel, Lord Coleraine: his widow, the Baroness Dowager Coleraine, is now lady of the manor in right of dower. "There is a well-founded tradition," observes Bigland, "that Kempsford was the site of a *Royal Palace* in the Saxon times, and that the Chaworths and Plantagenets resided in their *Castle* here, which was rebuilt by Sir Thomas Thynne in the reign of James the First: this manorial mansion, within a few years levelled with the ground, was a quadrangular structure, of very large dimensions, ornamented in the style of that day."† In several old writings, Kempsford is styled a *Barony*.

* "Henry, Duke of Lancaster, resided here in the reign of Henry the Third; where his only son came to an unfortunate end, which determined the Duke to leave the place; and his horse casting a shoe at his departure, the inhabitants nailed it to the Church door, where it remains as a memorial of that event to this day." *Rudder's Gloucestershire*, p. 510.

+ Gloucestershire, Vol. II. p. 121. A good view of this mansion was engraved by Kyp: another, but inferior, was given in Atkyns' Gloucestershire.

rony. The *Church*, dedicated to St. Mary, was erected in the fourteenth century, at the expence of Henry, Duke of Lancaster, whose arms, with those of Edward the Confessor, and the cognizances of the houses of Clare and Plantagenet, are displayed on the pillars which support the roof. It consists of a nave, and lofty tower rising from the centre: the architecture is neat.

This vicinity is by some authors supposed to have been the place where a battle was fought, about the year 800, between Æthelmund, Chief of the Wiccii, or inhabitants of Gloucestershire, and Wearitan, General of the Walsati, who inhabited Wiltshire. Æthelmund is recorded to have passed on horseback through the ford at *Kynemeresford*, the ancient name of Kempsford; from this circumstance, Rudder imagines that the battle was rather fought at Cummersford, near Calne, in Wiltshire, where large entrenchments still remain: both Generals were killed, but the Walsati were victorious.

LEACHLADE, OR LECHELADE,

Is a small market-town, situated on the north side of the river Isis, or Thames, near the point where the counties of Wilts, Berks, and Gloucester, unite; and not far from the place where the *Leche* rivulet empties itself into the Thames. From the latter circumstance, Lechelade is said to derive its name; *Lade* being a contraction from the Saxon *Ladean*, to unload, or empty.

Among the particulars of this manor, recorded in the Domesday Book, is the mention of a fishery here of 175 eels. The manor, at the period of the Survey, was the property of Henry de Fereres, ancestor of the Ferrers, Earls of Derby, from whom, by the marriage of Isabel, an heiress, it was conveyed to Roger Mortimer. It afterwards reverted to the Crown, and was granted by Henry the Third, to his brother, Richard, Earl of Cornwall, and Senchia, or Sentia, his wife, on the death of whose son, Edmund, it again fell to the Crown. It then passed in succession through the families of Talbot, Despencer, Holland, and Grey, till confirmed by Edward the Fourth, to his mother, Cicely, Duchess of

York. The manor and town were afterwards made part of the dower of Catherine of Arragon; and have since passed through various families to Samuel Churchill, Esq. who purchased them of the Rev. Sir John Thomas Wheate, Bart. whose brother, Sir Jacob Wheate, Bart. had the sole right confirmed to him in the year 1774.

A PRIORY, or *Hospital* for black Canons, dedicated to St. John Baptist, and consisting of a Master, and certain poor and infirm brethren, was founded here upon a piece of ground called *Lade*, near the ancient bridge over the Thames, (hence called St. John's Bridge,) given for that purpose by the Lady Isabel Ferrers. Richard, Earl of Cornwall, and his wife, Senchia, are generally regarded as the founders of this Hospital; but, from the above circumstance, it seems probable, that they only completed an establishment previously began by the Lady Isabel; who is also traditionally said to have founded a Nunnery here. The Hospital was suppressed in the year 1473, and its revenues applied to the foundation of a Chantry of three Priests in the parish Church: some foundations of buildings, supposed to have belonged to the Priory, have lately been dug up near the bridge.

The *Church*, dedicated to St. Lawrence, is a handsome structure in the pointed style, and was erected about the middle of the fifteenth century, at the joint expence of the then Vicar, Conrade Ney, the inmates of the Priory, and the inhabitants of the parish. The nave is spacious, and divided from the aisles by light pillars; at the west end is a square embattled tower, terminated by a well-proportioned spire: the pulpit is of sculptured stone.

At Leachlade, the Thames becomes navigable; and here the junction of the Thames and Severn is completed by the canal. Most of the Wiltshire and Gloucester cheese, consumed in the Metropolis, is brought in waggons to this town, where it is put on board the vessels which convey it down the Thames. The grant of the market was obtained by Richard, Earl of Cornwall: an annual fair, held on the ninth of September, is much frequented. According to the returns made in 1801, under the Population Act, the inhabitants of this parish amounted to 917; the number of

houses to 193. "In a meadow near Leachlade, was lately discovered a large subterraneous building, supposed to have been a Roman bath: it is near fifty feet in length, forty in breadth, and four in height; and is supported by pillars of brick, and curiously inlaid with stones of variegated colours."*

FAIRFORD

WAS held, in the reign of Edward the Confessor, by Bithric, or Brihtric, Earl of Gloucester, who was sent on an embassy into Normandy, where the Lady Matilda, daughter of Baldwin, Earl of Flanders, and afterwards wife to William, Duke of Normandy, conceived a passion for him; but the Earl disdaining the tender of her love, she became his bitter enemy, and, after the subjugation of England, effected his ruin. On this occasion she solicited the Conqueror to have Bithric placed at her disposal; and the request being granted, she had him arrested on one of his lordships, and sent him prisoner to Winchester, where he died in confinement.† Most of his estates were likewise seized by Matilda, and among them the manor of Fairford, which reverting to the Crown after her death, is recorded, in the Domesday Book, as *terra regis*. "In 1263, forty-seventh of Henry the Third, Richard de Clare, Earl of Gloucester and Hertford, obtained this lordship, with privilege of a market and fairs, which in the succeeding reign was confirmed to Gilbert, his son, whose sister and co-heiress, Elianor, conveyed it, by marriage, to Hugh le Despencer the younger, in 1314. From this family it descended to the *Beauchamps* and *Nevills*, Earls of Warwick, and was one of the 114 manors which were fraudulently obtained from Anne, Countess of Warwick, by Henry the Seventh, by a deed dated December 13th, 1488. John Tame purchased the manor of the Crown in 1498; several years

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* Ireland's Picturesque Views on the River Thames, p. 31.

† Leland Itin. Vol. VI. p. 73. Bryant's Observations upon the Poems of Rowley, p. 53. In the latter work, are various interesting particulars of Earl Bithric, collected from the Domesday Book, and other records.

prior to which he had settled here. He was succeeded by his son and grandson, both Knights, and of the same name: the last Sir Edmond left three sisters, co-heiresses; but Fairford was held in jointure by Catherine, his relict, twice married after his decease; first, to Sir Walter Buckler, Knt. who procured from Queen Elizabeth, a further confirmation of the demesnes; and, lastly, to Roger Lygon, Esq. Sir Thomas Verney, Knt. of Compton Murdoc, Warwickshire, having married Alice, the second co-heiress, purchased the shares of the other two, Margaret and Isabel, by deed of sale, subject to the said jointure, in February 1547. About the commencement of the last century, Sir Richard Verney, Knt. transferred this estate to Sir Henry Unton and John Croke, Esq. who soon after re-sold it to the family of Tracey. Andrew Barker, Esq. of the very ancient family of Barker, of Coverall and Hopton Castles, Shropshire, became possessed of the manor about the restoration of Charles the Second, and left one son, Samuel Barker, Esq.*" who died in 1708, and was succeeded by his daughter, married to James Lambe, Esq. of Hackney, Middlesex, whom she survived, and in the year 1789, bequeathed this manor, with other estates, to John Raymond, Esq. the present owner: this gentleman has since assumed the name and family arms of Barker.

Fairford is situated near the banks of the river Colne, in an extremely pleasant country; but its celebrity has arisen more from the beauty of its CHURCH, and the exquisitely *Painted Glass* of which that is the repository, than from any other circumstance. The Church, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, is a very fine specimen of the style of architecture that prevailed about the close of the fifteenth century. It consists of a lofty nave, a chancel, and side aisles, with a tower rising from the centre, but so low, in proportion to the other parts of the structure, as to excite the idea of its having been originally intended to terminate it by a spire. The whole building is embattled, and supported by pinnacled buttresses: the buttresses of the tower are somewhat peculiar, as they are flattened, and gradually diminished to the top, so that at a distance,

* Bigland's Gloucestershire, Vol. I. p. 568.

distance, the form appears to be octangular: upon their bases are statues as large as life, rudely sculptured: on each side of the parapet are five escutcheons with the arms of Clare, Despencer, Newburgh, Tame, and others, and round the architrave is a series of grotesque figures: many niches, originally filled with finely carved statues, ornament the exterior. The internal architecture is extremely fine, and highly embellished: the aisles are divided from the nave by light and fluted pillars, sustaining four arches on each side, sufficiently low to admit the insertion of a range of windows above them in the upper part of the nave. The aisles are continued parallel with the chancel, with which is a communication by two arches of equal height. A beautiful oak screen surrounds the chancel, ornamented with finely carved tabernacle-work, and having stalls in the same style. On the north side of the altar are three niches, or *subsellia*, used in the Catholic times by the officiating priests. The upper division of each aisle is parted off, and respectively appropriated to the use of the Vicar, and of the Lord of the manor. The pavement is chequered with blue and white stone, and, together with the pews, has an extremely neat appearance. The whole length of the Church is 120 feet, its breadth is fifty-five feet.

This elegant building owes its foundation to an opulent merchant named John Tame, of a reputable family settled in London, where several of them had served the office of Sheriff.* “Before the coming of John Tame to Fairforde, (temp. Edw. IV.)” observes A. Wood, in his Manuscript Itinerary, “where he settled the trade and manufacture of wool and clothing, it never flourished; but by his endeavours, and his son Edmond, there was as great trade drove there as at Cirencester.” About the year 1492, this merchant is recorded to have taken a vessel, bound from a Flemish port to Italy, and laden with Painted glass; which, agreeably to the expensive piety of the times, he determined to have put up in a large edifice expressly built for its reception. Making choice, therefore, of Fairford, where he had been some time

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settled,

* Stowe's London, p. 514.

settled, and the manor of which, as related above, he afterwards purchased, he commenced the present Church in 1493; but dying in 1500, it was completed by his son, Sir Edmond Tame, Knt. the person mentioned by Wood in the preceding extract. The glass* was disposed in twenty-eight windows, with four or more compartments in each; but in several of them, the figures are now mutilated, or displaced. The principal subjects are scriptural, and display the most important events in the life of our Saviour, with a few of the more remarkable transactions recorded in the Old Testament. The subjects commence in the fifth window of the north aisle, on which side all the paintings are in much the best state of preservation: the third and fourth compartments of this window, which represent *Moses* and the *Burning Bush*, and the *Queen of Sheba offering Gifts to King Solomon*, are very finely colored. The next window is very imperfect, but commences the subjects from the history of the Redemption, which, with the exception of the Resurrection and Day of Judgment, is concluded in the ninth window, by a representation of the *Ascension*, and of the *Descent of the Holy Spirit*. The third window in this series is the best: in one of the compartments displaying the *Salutation of the Virgin*, the architectural perspective of the Temple is very fine: the great east window also, of which the chief design is the *Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem*, is perfect, and extremely grand, the effects of the crimson velvet and gilding "being truly surprising." The tenth, eleventh, and twelfth windows, contain the figures of the *twelve Apostles*, over the heads of whom, on scrolls, are labels, containing the Creed in separate sentences. The two next windows, which display the *Primitive Fathers of the Church*, &c. are very imperfect. The designs of the great west window are the *Resurrection* and *last Judgment*; of which Mr. Dallaway observes, "gothic fancy has been indulged to an extreme in these exhibitions

* "It appears that a description of these windows was engrossed on vellum, and preserved in the town chest. It is now lost; but a paper-roll, copied from it, falling into the hands of Mr. Murray, was published by Hearne, in his edition of Roper's Life of Sir Thomas More, p. 273. 8vo." *Bigland, Vol. I. p. 568.*

exhibitions of the horrible and the ludicrous. So brilliant are the colours, and so delicate the drapery of the smaller figures in this assemblage, that a more pleasing specimen of ancient art will rarely be found in England, or on the Continent.”* The sixteenth and seventeenth windows represent the *Judgment of Solomon*, the *Evangelists*, &c. the three next are adorned with the figures of *twelve Prophets*, with appropriate labels over each. From the twenty-first to the twenty-fourth windows, inclusive, are the figures of *Roman Emperors*, and others who opposed the progress of Christianity: the remaining four are embellished with paintings of the *Roman Emperors* who favored its establishment.

The beautiful execution of these paintings may at once be inferred from the testimony of Vandyck, who is recorded by Hearne, to have inspected them, and to have “often affirmed, both to the King (Charles the First) and others, that many of the figures were so exquisitely well done, that they could not be exceeded by the best pencil.” By whom they were executed is unknown, as well as the name of the artist by whom they were designed; though tradition has attributed them to Albert Durer; yet this will not bear the test of chronology, as he was but little more than twenty years old when the windows were put up; nor is it probable that he had then attained to such proficiency.† “Neither Luca Van Leyden, nor Golzius, could have been employed, as they both flourished after the Church was finished: but for this, the extreme resemblance of the style to the well-known etchings of those masters, would induce us to attribute this beautiful work to them. May we be allowed a conjecture, that the designer was Francesco Francia, who was born at Bologna in 1450, and lived there till 1518, peculiarly eminent in the art of encaustic painting.”‡ The imperfections which appear in these windows, most probably originated at the time of the Civil Wars, when they were obliged to be removed, to preserve them from the indiscriminating zeal of the Parliamentary fanatics, whose blind fury occasioned

* Anecdotes of the Arts, &c.

† Anecdotes of the Arts, p. 438.

‡ Bigland, Vol I. p. 569.

occasioned the destruction of many works of art connected with religious edifices. The care of the then impropiator, William Oldysworth, Esq. caused the preservation of "these storied windows richly dight," as they were taken down and concealed by his orders, till the storms of civil contention had passed away. This assemblage, though mutilated in various parts, is still unrivalled, excepting by the windows in the Chapel at King's College:* to secure it from further injury, a lattice of wire was fitted to each window† in the year 1725, at the expence of 200l. given by the Hon. Elizabeth Fermor, daughter of William Lord Lempster, and grand-daughter, by the female line, to Andrew Barker, Esq. a former owner of the manor.

Fairford Church contains a variety of monuments and sepulchral inscriptions. In the north aisle is a table tomb, of Italian marble, to the memory of JOHN TAME, the beneficent founder of this edifice, and ALICE, his wife. Inserted in the slab on the top, are brasses, displaying their effigies; the former is represented in armour, the latter in the dress of the times: beneath is the following legend:

For Ihus Iobe pray for me § I may not pray—nowe pray ye
With a Patir Mother et an Abe That my payngs Released may be.

At the corner of the slab are four escutcheons of arms, and round the verge is this inscription:

Orate pro animabus Johis Tame, Armigeri, et Alicie uxoris
ejus, qui quidem Joh'es obiit octavo die mensis Maij Anno
Dñi Millesimo quingentisimo, et anno regni Regis Henrici
Septi sexto decimo: et predicta Alicia obiit vicesimo die mensis
Decembris, Anno Dñi. Milimo CCC, Septuagesimo primo
quorum a'tabus propicietur Deus. For Ihus Iobe pray for me:
I may not pray—nowe pray ye.

On

* See Beauties, Vol. II. p. 51.

† It seems probable, from examining the contracts made by benefactors to ecclesiastical buildings in the early centuries after the Conquest, noticed by Mr. Walpole, that the glaziers furnished the stained glass, which was cut into various shapes, and inclosed with lead, as the colors were required: the pattern or design for the windows, being first given by the same artists who painted the

On a blue marble slab, likewise in the north aisle, are *Brasses* of SIR EDMOND TAME, Knt. son of the above; and of his two wives. Sir Edmond is represented in armour, with a surcoat displaying the family arms, and is recorded by an inscription in black letter round the verge of the slab, to have died in the year 1433. Here also is a table tomb to the memory of SIR ROGER LYGON, and CATHERINE, his wife, with their effigies on the top in free-stone. Sir Roger is represented in armour, and his Lady in the dress of the times: the latter was thrice married: first to Sir Edmond Tame, Knt. grandson of John Tame; secondly, to Sir Walter Buckler, Knt. Privy Counsellor to Queen Elizabeth; and lastly, to Sir Roger Lygon. Various other monuments for respectable families have been erected in this Church.

Rudder deduces the name of Fairford from the Saxon *Faran*, to go, or to pass, and *ford*; thus supposing it to signify the *Passage* at the *Ford*. The town consists of two streets, neatly and pretty regularly built. The charter for the market was procured through the interest of Andrew Barker, Esq. about the year 1668; but the persons frequenting it are not very numerous. Several charitable donations have been made for the use of the poor; and a *Free School* has been established by the produce of money expended in the purchase of lands, and bringing in about sixty pounds annually, bequeathed by the Hon. Elizabeth Fermor, and Mary Barker, spinster. The population of this parish, in 1801, was returned at 1326; the number of houses at 273.

Near the Church at Fairford, was anciently a manorial residence, erected by the Earls of Warwick, and called *Beauchamp* and *Warwick Court*. This appears to have been rebuilt by the Tames, as Leland mentions "a fayr mansion-place of the Tames, hard by the Chirche-yarde, buildid thoroughly by John Tame, and Edmund Tame; the back thereof goithe to the very brigd of Fairford."

the walls in fresco. For some time the stained glass used in England was imported from Flanders: it appears, however, that this manufacture was established at Coventry, London, and Bristol, subsequently to the reign of Edward the Second. *Dallaway.*

Fairford.”* This edifice was pulled down by Andrew Barker, Esq. who, with the materials, erected the present manor-house, a few furlongs distant towards the north. In sinking the foundations of the latter, urns and Roman coins are recorded to have been found. The House is a spacious and convenient building, situated within a pleasant park, and now inhabited by John Raymond Barker, Esq. by whom some considerable improvements have been made. The pleasure grounds were originally laid out in the formal style that was introduced from Holland, soon after the Revolution; but of late years they have been greatly improved, agreeably to the modern system of Landscape gardening; and, by the judicious introduction of plantations, have been rendered extremely interesting. The river Colne flows on the west side, and its channel having been widened for a considerable length, and its extremities artificially concealed, the views are greatly improved by its combination with the surrounding objects. The vista extending opposite to the north front of the house, is nearly a mile long. The whole circumference of the grounds is about four miles.

QUENINGTON, or QUEENINGTON, two miles north from Fairford, is a small village, remarkable for the architecture of its *Church*, which is a small low building, displaying vestiges of great antiquity; though it has apparently undergone considerable alterations during the two last centuries. “The original round-headed windows may still be traced, though they are now either walled up, or changed into sharp-pointed, or square ones. At the western extremity of the north and south walls, are two *Door-ways* leading into the nave, which exhibit very rich specimens of that kind of architecture usually termed Saxon. From the situation of these door-ways, it seems probable that the nave of the Church formerly extended further westward than it does at present, and perhaps terminated in a tower. The south door-way is five feet, eleven inches in height, and nine feet, eleven inches wide: the arch is semicircular, and ornamented with a variety of mouldings, and other decorations, wherein plainly appears a corruption of the
Roman

* Itin. Vol. II. p. 22.

Roman style. The interior part of the arch is ornamented with the zig-zag moulding, so constantly to be seen in works of this kind. Within this, and immediately over the door, are several figures rudely carved in bas-relief, among which may be distinguished the Deity crowning the Virgin Mary, who holds a dove; and the angel, eagle, winged bull, and lion, the symbols of the Evangelists; the four last of which are accompanied with scrolls. On one side is the figure of a church, in which it may be remarked, that all the arches are circular; that it has a low spire, covered with shingles; and a small tower on each side, terminating in a pinnacle; probably a representation of the original west front of this Church.* Without the zig-zag work is a series of animal, and one human head, ranging with other ornaments. “The north *Door-way* is ten feet, eight inches, in width, and thirteen feet in height. It has a great variety of ornaments, among which the zig-zag, and lozenge mouldings, are the most conspicuous. Over the door is the figure of Our Saviour, carved in bas-relief, trampling on the Devil, bound hand and foot, and thrusting the cross into his mouth. There are also three figures in praying attitudes, one of whom appears just escaping from the jaws of a large serpent; over these is a figure of the sun. Above the doorway, is the figure of a ram’s head, much mutilated.” These doorways are in good preservation: the ornaments are numerous, but particularly on that to the north. Mr. Lysons supposes, from the general style, that this Church was erected soon after the Conquest, and probably by Walter de Laci, to whom the manor was given by the Conqueror, or by his son, Roger de Laci, who is said to have been in such favor with the Norman Sovereign, that he bestowed on him 116 manors, of which twenty were in Gloucestershire. From the bas-reliefs within the arches of the door-ways, we should, however, rather refer the building to the age of Edward the Confessor.

A PRECEPTORY

* The following extract, are from Mr. S. Lysons’ Description of Gloucestershire, inserted in the tenth volume of the Archaeologia, and illustrated by the following engraving.

A PRECEPTORY for the Knights Hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem, was founded at Quenington before the reign of King John, by Agnes Laci, William de Poitou, and the Countess Cecelia; and the endowments being afterwards increased by other benefactors, the Knights became possessed of the entire manor, which, after the suppression of religious houses, was granted to Sir Anthony Kingstone, in the thirty-seventh of Henry the Eighth. It has since passed through various families, by descent and purchase, and is now the property of Michael Hicks Beach, Esq. The Preceptory was surrounded by a moat, now mostly filled up; part of the building, and an ancient gateway, are mentioned by Rudder as remaining in his time.

WILLIAMSTRIP, the seat of Michael Hicks Beach, Esq. occupies an elevated site, about two miles east from the river Colne, in the parish of Colne St. Andrew. The mansion is sheltered on the north and east by plantations, which defend it from the bleak winds: it was built about the commencement of the last century, but has since been considerably improved by different proprietors. On the high grounds, which rise from the Colne in a picturesque manner, traces of the Icknield Way are still visible.

BIBURY, a small village near the banks of the Colne, at the time of the Domesday Survey, gave name to a hundred, but is now included in that called Brightwell's Barrow. As early as the eighth century, the manor was the property of the See of Worcester; but between the years 1125 and 1150, it is said, by Godwin, to have been given by Bishop Simon, to the Abbey of Osney, in Oxfordshire. However this may be, it is certain that a controversy concerning it arose between the Churches of Worcester and of Osney, which being referred to Pope Alexander the Third, he delegated Bartholomew Iscanus, Bishop of Exeter, to determine the dispute, and by his advice it was thus compromised: "that the said Church of Osney should hold and enjoy for ever, the Church of Bibury, with its Chapels, and all its appurtenances, saving in all things the jurisdiction of the Diocesan; paying, therefore yearly, in recompence, sixty shillings to the Church of Worcester in the name of a Canon: that the Bishop should place there

one Canon, at least twenty years old, and not infamous, who should follow the rule of the house, &c. and lastly, that all and singular of the Convent of Osney, should offer up the same prayers for the Bishop of Worcester as they did for their own founders and Abbots."* In 1547, Heath, Bishop of Worcester, finally alienated Bibury, with other manors, from that See, to John Dudley, Earl of Warwick, afterwards Duke of Northumberland, from whom it has passed through various families to Estcourt Cresswell, Esq. whose father obtained it by marriage with the daughter and heiress of Edmund Warneford, Esq. who had become owner by a like marriage with the heiress of the *Sackvilles*. Bibury is a peculiar, possessing jurisdiction over Aldsworth, Barnsley, and Winson; the Lord of the Manor, however, "claims a prescriptive right of appointing his own Official and Chancellor, who hath the recording of wills, and the granting of licenses within the peculiar: nor doth the Lord of the Manor allow to the Bishop the right of visitation."†

The *Church*, dedicated to St. Mary, is a spacious edifice, supposed to have been rebuilt by the Monks of Osney. It consists of a nave, chancel, and side aisles, with a tower at the north-west angle. The architecture of the north and south doors is in the early Norman style. On the north wall was a Colossal painting, in *fresco*, of St. Christopher, the sight of whose image, according to the Monkish legends, had sufficient efficacy to preserve the spectator from sudden or violent death: the painting is now entirely obliterated. Several monuments and inscriptions to the memory of the *Coxwells*, and other respectable families, are dispersed through this structure.

The *Manor-House* was built in the reign of James the Second, by Sir Thomas Sackville, of the family of the Earls of Dorset. It is a spacious edifice, in the best style of that age: over the porch is the date, 1623. From its situation on an easy eminence, it commands a fine view of the river Colne, backed by an amphitheatre of low wood of the most variegated foliage, clothing the acclivities

* Thomas's Survey of Worcester, p. 232.

† Rudge's Gloucestershire, Vol. I. p. 221.

acclivities of the hills, and rendered more beautiful from the contrast afforded by the barren downs that appear beyond. This mansion is the residence of Estcourt Cresswell, Esq. the present Lord of the Manor.

BARNSLEY PARK, about two miles west of Bibury, is the residence of James Musgrave, Esq. owner of the manor of Barnsley, which was formerly the seat of the *Perrots*, who obtained it by the marriage of Henry Perrot, Esq. about the beginning of the last century, with Catherine, daughter of James, Lord Chandois, of Sudley, and relict of Walter Brereton Bouchier, Esq. whose ancestors had purchased the estate, and settled here, early in the reign of Elizabeth. The mansion, a sumptuous edifice, in the high Italian style, was erected by H. Perrot, Esq. The saloon is magnificently decorated with fresco paintings, by the best masters. The Park is about three miles in circumference, and contains some extensive plantations. The ancient Manor-House, and residence of the Bouchiers, stands near the middle of the village of BARNSLEY, but is much dilapidated, The *Church*, dedicated to St. Mary, is a small irregular building, said to have been built by Sir Edmond Tame, Knt. of Fairford; and an old building, now an inn, is pointed out as his occasional place of residence.

STOWELL is the seat and manor of John, Lord Chedworth, whose ancestor, John Howe, Esq. purchased them of Wentworth, Earl of Strafford; who inherited them through the marriage of Sir William Wentworth, with Anne, sister of Henry Atkinson, Esq. who was Lord of the Manor in the year 1608. The latter gentleman, or his immediate successor, built the Manor-House, as appears from the arms of the family, carved in free-stone over the north door. It stands on a gentle eminence, in a pleasant park, containing about 100 acres, and embellished by well-arranged plantations.

NORTHLEACH

Is a small market town, chiefly consisting of one long and irregular street, situated in a bottom in the Cotswold Hills, near the source of the little river Leche; from which, and its relative

situation, its name is evidently derived. The manor was given by King Ethelred to the Abbey at Gloucester, to the monks of which Henry the Third granted the privilege of two annual fairs; and the Abbey had a confirmation of fairs and markets here in 1221. After the Dissolution, in the reign of Henry the Eighth, the manor passed into lay hands: Sir Ralph Dutton was lord of it at the beginning of the last century, and in his family it continued till about the year 1769, when it was bequeathed to the Rev. Mr. Rice, but has been re-vested in the Duttons: James Dutton, created Lord Sherborne, in 1784, is now owner.

About three centuries ago, Northleach was of considerable importance as a clothing town; but not having a sufficiency of water to supply the increased demands of the manufacture, it gradually declined. Here was also a public market for wool and cloth; some of the buildings for stowing these articles are mentioned by Rudder as yet remaining, having a spacious area in the centre, and communicating with each other by galleries.

The *Church*, dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul, is a large and handsome structure, consisting of a nave, chancel, and side aisles, an elegant south porch, and a lofty tower at the west end, with open-worked battlements. The south porch is finely embellished with tracery, both externally, and within-side; in the abutments are carved niches, and two in the centre with statues: various figures in oval compartments ornament the outer cornice. The whole summit of the building is embattled, and embellished with pinnacles. On several slabs in the pavement are sepulchral *Brasses*: one of these, in the nave, marks the place of interment of JOHN FORTEY, an opulent clothier of this town, who either built or heightened the nave before 1458. "This slab is inlaid with brasses, and exhibits the figure of a merchant under a rich gothic canopy, having a sheep under his right foot, and a woolpack under his left: beneath this figure are the following hexameters:"*

Respice quid prodest presentis temporis ebum
 Omne quod est nichil est preter amare Deum.

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S s

Round

* Lyons' Gloucestershire Antiquities, in which is an engraving of this and the following monument.

Round the verge is a mutilated inscription, by which it appears that he died in the above year; and at the corners and sides are his mark and initials. On another slab are brass representations, under gothic canopies, of a female between two men in gowns, one of whom has a woolpack under his feet, the other a pair of shears; and beneath them two groups (also in brass) of the children of each marriage. The above are the effigies of THOMAS FORTEY, WILLIAM SCORS, and ALICE, first married to the former, and afterwards to Scors: below these, and round the edge of the stone, are mutilated inscriptions. This, like the foregoing, belongs to the latter part of the fifteenth century. The south aisle was built in the year 1489.

A *Free-Grammar School* was founded here in the first of Elizabeth, by Hugh Westwood, Esq. who endowed it with the impropriate tythes of Chedworth, and a messuage and tenement, then producing nearly 120l. annually. Every fourth year, an exhibitioner is sent from this School to Pembroke College, Oxford, on the foundation of George Townsend, Esq. The *Market-House* is an old building, supported on columns; near it are several steps, and the base of an ancient cross. The inhabitants of this parish, as returned under the late act, amounted to 664; the houses to 110.

At EASTINGTON, a tything in Northleach parish, Dr. Woodward made a great part of his valuable collection of fossils, which he afterwards presented to the University of Cambridge. This tything is also remarkable for being the site of an ancient *Camp*, called *Norbury*, which Baxter imagines to be a corruption of *Morbyrig*, or the Great Camp. It was of an oblong form, inclosed with a double agger, and contained about eighty acres; but the ground having been long cultivated, the banks are in many parts levelled by the plough. From the proximity of this camp to the Foss-Way, it has been supposed to be Roman.

SHERBOURN, or SHERBORNE, is a small village, situated, as its name implies, in a little valley, or *boorn*, which rises at Farmington, and flowing through this parish, falls into the Winrush, near Great Barrington. The manor belonged to the Abbey

of Winchcomb, from before the Conquest till the Dissolution, with the exception of a small interval, during which it was assigned to St. Ebrulph's Abbey, in Normandy; but, on the suppression of the Alien Priories, it reverted to its former possessors. In the reign of Edward the Sixth, it became the property of Thomas Dutton, Esq. of the family of the *Duttons* of Cheshire, whose descendant, by the female line, James, Lord Sherborne, is now owner. In the *Church*, a small edifice, rebuilt by the late James Lenox Dutton, Esq. are several marble monuments of his family. Near the Church is SHERBORNE HOUSE, the seat of Lord Sherborne, an extensive mansion, consisting of two quadrangles: the eastern, and most ancient part, is supposed to have been a seat of the Abbots of Winchcomb. Two pleasant parks belong to this house, each between three and four miles in circumference; and in one of them is a neat Lodge.

JAMES BRADLEY, D. D. Regius Professor of Astronomy, was born at Sherbourn, in the year 1692. Having been taught the rudiments of education at Northleach, he was sent to Baliol College, Oxford, where he took his degrees in arts, and entered into orders by the advice of his friends, who intended him for the church. His knowledge of the mathematics, however, which he derived from the instructions and conversation of his uncle Dr. James Pound, gave his studies another direction; and at the age of twenty-nine, anno 1721, he was appointed Savilian Professor of Astronomy; the professorship having become vacant by the death of Dr. Keil. He now wholly devoted himself to his favorite science, astronomy, and by his various important discoveries, procured the friendship of the most eminent literati of that day; which occasioned his promotion to the office of Astronomer Royal, at Greenwich, after the decease of Dr. Halley. On this appointment the University of Oxford sent him a diploma, creating him D. D. During his residence at the Observatory, he was offered the living of Greenwich, but refused it from conscientious motives; which becoming known to George the Second, that Sovereign, to his great honor, granted him an addition of 250*l.* annually to his salary as Astronomer Royal, and this sum has been regularly

continued to his successors. From his indefatigable attention to study, he was afflicted with a considerable oppression of spirits for some time previous to his decease, which occurred in July 1762. He was buried at Minchin-Hampton, in this county.* Particulars of his most important discoveries were published during his life; but his *Observations*, contained in thirteen quarto volumes, have been hitherto withheld, though presented to the University of Oxford after his death, on the express condition of publication.

GREAT BARRINGTON is a parish containing about 1000 acres, situated on the eastern verge of the county, and including some portion of Oxfordshire within its limits, as well as a small tract belonging to Berkshire. Previous to the Conquest, the manor was held by Earl Harold; but afterwards, it was granted to the Priory of Lanthony, near Gloucester, and continued parcel of its possessions till the Dissolution, when it was granted to John Gyese, ancestor of the present Sir John Guyse, Bart. in exchange for Aspley Guise, in Bedfordshire. From this family it passed, by purchase, in the year 1553, to Richard Mornington, whose only daughter conveyed it to the *Brays*, by marriage with Reginald Bray, Esq. whose descendants retained possession till the year 1734, when it was sold to the Lord Chancellor Talbot: the present owner is Lord Dynevor, grandson of the late Mary, Countess Talbot. The *Church*, dedicated to St. Mary, appears, from its architecture, to have been erected about the time of Henry the Seventh: it consists of a nave, chancel, and north aisle, with an embattled tower. Beneath one of the windows of the aisle, is the monument and effigies of CAPTAIN EDMUND BRAY, grandfather of Sir Giles Bray, who is represented in armour, with a ruff round his neck, and a sword girt on the *right* side. This peculiarity is reported to have originated from the Captain having killed a man at Tilbury Camp, and, in token of his sorrow, and sincere repentance, determined never more to use his right hand: several others of this family were also buried here. In the chancel is a monument,

* See his Epitaph, p. 590.

ment, by Nollekins, in remembrance of MARY, Countess Talbot, whose bust is displayed in statuary marble. The Lord Chancellor Talbot was likewise interred here; but no monument has yet been erected to his memory.

BARRINGTON HALL, a seat of George de Cardonnel, Lord Dynevor, but recently let to ——— Dutton, Esq. was built, by the Lord Chancellor Talbot, in the year 1734; soon after which period, the ancient manor-house was destroyed by fire. It is an elegant structure, of the Doric order, situated on a pleasant eminence, at a short distance from the banks of the Winrush. In the Dining-Room, among other paintings, are portraits of ADAM DE CARDONNEL, Esq. Secretary at War in the reign of Queen Anne; and MARY, Countess Talbot, his daughter and heiress, who died in the year 1787. The grounds are judiciously disposed, so as to furnish a good specimen of the *ferme ornée*. The park is about three miles in circumference, and well planted.

BOURTON-ON-THE-WATER is a large village, very advantageously situated in a pleasant vale, and consists of detached houses, arranged on the opposite sides of a pellucid stream, formed by various small springs, which flow from the north and north-west: over this stream is a handsome stone *Bridge*, erected in the year 1756. The *Church* is a modern edifice, from a singular design by Mr. William Marshall. At the west end is a tower, with a rustic base, the angles of which are ornamented with Ionic pilasters; and the whole is finished with a balustrade, urns, and a cupola: in the interior of the Church is a neat colonnade of the Ionic order. This manor anciently belonged to the Abbey of Evesham; but, after the Dissolution, it was granted to Edmund, Lord Chandos: it is now the property of Thomas Ingram, Esq. The ancient *Foss-Way* passes this village, about two furlongs to the east; and at nearly the same distance from that road, is a quadrangular *Camp*, inclosing about sixty acres, and evinced to be of Roman origin, by the numerous coins and other vestiges discovered there. Among the latter was a curious gold signet, weighing nearly an ounce, and having the representation of a Roman soldier, sitting on a tripod, with a spear in his left hand, and the

Roman eagle at his feet. On one side of the camp a paved aqueduct has been found; and human bones have been frequently met with near the foundations.* The number of houses in this parish, as returned under the late act, was 149; the number of inhabitants 697. Petrifications of different species of shell-fish are frequently found in the neighbouring quarries.

ICOMBE CAMP, in the hamlet of that name, is situated on a high, conical, barren hill, and commands an extensive view over the wolds. Its form is circular; but the bank has been partly destroyed by the effects of cultivation: the area is about five feet higher than the adjacent lands.

STOW-ON-THE-WOLD

Is a small market-town, irregularly built, on the summit of a high hill, the base of which is about three miles in diameter. From this elevated situation it is generally said to want three elements out of the four; fire, earth, and water: air it possesses in plenty, and though uncommonly sharp, it is reputed to be very healthful. Water is scarce; especially since the decay of an horizontal windmill at the north end of the town, which formerly raised it from a very deep well, and forced it through pipes to the houses. The charter for the market was granted, in the fourth of Edward the Third, to the Abbey of Evesham, by which establishment some part of the manor was held in the time of Edward the Confessor; and within a century it had obtained possession of the remainder. The manor now belongs to Edmund John Chamberlain, Esq. a descendant of a respectable family, of Norman extraction, who settled in the hamlet of MAUGERSBURY, on the east side of Stow, in the time of Elizabeth; and one of whom, Edmund Chamberlayne, Esq. was Sheriff of this county in the thirty-ninth year of that Sovereign.

The *Church* is a strong and well-built edifice, apparently the workmanship of different periods during the fourteenth and fifteenth

* Rudder's Gloucestershire, p. 302.

teenth centuries. It consists of a nave, aisles, and chancel, with an embattled tower on the south side, eighty-one feet in height, which, from its lofty situation, constitutes a principal object through a circumference of many miles. The arches are pointed, and supported by clustered pillars, some of which have zig-zag capitals: at the east end is a rich window of quatrefoils; and at the west end, a window of ovals, with two trefoils in each. Several monuments and inscriptions, to the memory of the *Chamberlaynes*, are contained in this edifice; and in the midst of the chancel is a large altar tomb, in remembrance of DUKE HASTINGS KEYT, of Ebrington, an officer on the part of Charles the First, who died in the year 1645: his effigy, arrayed in armour, is engraved on the slab which covers the tomb.

The principal charitable institutions are an *Alms-House* for nine poor persons, and a *Free-School*; these are situated on the south side of the Church-yard: the former was founded under the will of William Chestre, dated as early as the sixteenth of Edward the Fourth. Ailmere, or Ethalmere, Earl of Cornwall and Devon, in the tenth century, the reputed founder of the original Church in this town, is also said to have erected an *Hospital* here, which Rudder mentions as being yet charged in the First Fruits Office, with the annual sum of thirteen shillings and four-pence. The population of Stow, as returned under the act of 1801, amounted to 1189; the number of houses, to 264: the latter are mostly low, and built with stone, and have generally a very ancient appearance. The principal manufacture is that of shoes.

At ADLESTROP, or EDELSTHORP, is the seat of James Henry Leigh, Esq. a lineal descendant of Sir Thomas Leigh, to whom the manor, which had previously belonged to the Abbey of Evesham, was granted in the year 1554. The mansion is a very ancient building, but has been much enlarged, and otherwise improved. The pleasure grounds have been lately laid out by Repton, and the natural beauties of the situation displayed according to the modern system of landscape gardening. Among its picturesque features, may be ranked a small stream, which, in its

progress down a hill, has its current checked by ledges of rocks, and at length falls into a lake at some distance from the house.

MORETON HEN-MARSH, sometimes written Moreton-in-the-Marsh, from its low situation, stands on the Roman Foss-Way, about two miles west from the spot of land, where an ornamented pillar with the following inscription, *THIS IS THE FOUR SHIRES STONE*, marks the point of meeting of the counties of Gloucester, Oxford, Warwick, and a detached part of Worcester. This manor was held in the reign of Edward the Confessor, by two noble Saxons;* but afterwards became the property of the Abbey of Westminster, and continued parcel of its possessions till the Dissolution, when it was granted to the Dean and Chapter of Westminster, whose property it yet remains.

During the period that Moreton belonged to the Abbey, they endeavored to increase its importance by various means; and in the reign of Henry the Third, procured the charter of a market, and the privilege of exempting its burgesses, as they were then called, from tolls in the several counties mentioned above. What immediate effect was produced is unknown; but the place never attained any considerable consequence; and the market has been long disused: an ancient building, supported on pillars in the middle of the village, is said to have been the market-house. According to the late act, the number of houses in this parish was 171; that of inhabitants, 829: the poorer classes of the latter are chiefly employed in spinning linen-yarn for different purposes.

BOURTON-ON-THE-HILL is only remarkable as the birth-place of the celebrated SIR THOMAS OVERBURY,† who was poisoned by the infernal arts of Frances Howard, Countess of Essex, and afterwards mistress and wife to Carr, Earl of Somerset, the abandoned minion of James the First. Sir Thomas was born in the year 1581; and having continued about three years at Queen's College, Oxford, was removed to the Temple at the age of seventeen, to study the municipal law; but not liking the profession, he travelled for some time on the Continent, and, after his return,
attached

* Bigland's Gloucestershire, Vol. II. p. 30.

† Ibid, Vol. I. p. 223.

attached himself to Sir Robert Carr, then Viscount Rochester, by whose interest with King James, he was knighted in 1608; and his father, Sir Nicholas Overbury, made one of the Judges of the Marches in Wales. The intimacy of his patron with the Countess of Essex, proved destructive to his advancement, and life; for, by endeavoring to dissuade Carr from marrying the latter, he made both of them his enemies; and, being committed to the Tower, on a frivolous pretext, in April, 1613, he was there poisoned, and died in the September following. The shocking practices employed to effect his death, were all discovered within two years afterwards, and several of the inferior agents executed for the crime; but Carr, and his infamous associate, though condemned on the most clear evidence, were reprieved, from time to time, by the debased Sovereign; and were at length entirely pardoned, a few months previous to his own death. Sir Thomas, who was author of several pieces, both in prose and verse, was esteemed as one of the most accomplished characters of his age. He appears to have been buried in the Chapel of St. Peter ad Vincula, in the Tower.

CAMPDEN, OR CAMPDEN CHIPPING,

ANCIENTLY *Campedene*, is a borough and corporate town, situated in a fertile valley, surrounded by cultivated hills, and hanging woods. Its remote origin may be inferred from the circumstance of the Saxon Kings assembling here, in the year 687, to consult on the mode of "carrying on the war with the Britons."* The era, however, in which it attained the most importance, was the fourteenth century, when it became a principal mart for wool, and the residence of many opulent merchants, who exported that commodity to Flanders, which was then the seat of the manufacture of cloth for the general supply of Europe. After the establishment of this trade in England, and the more general diffusion of the wool business, Campden was gradually deprived

* Camden; on the authority of John Bever. Gough's edit. Vol. I. p. 263.

deprived of its consequence; and both the merchandise and manufactures of early days, are now totally lost.*

In a charter granted by James the First, in the year 605, it is stated, that this town was an ancient vill, and originally incorporated; and it is therein ordered, that its government should in future be vested in two Bailiffs, twelve capital, and twelve inferior Burgesses, a Steward, &c. The Corporation is, at present, extremely defective, and even the officers themselves seem but little solicitous to preserve their own authority and dignity. By the charter, the Bailiffs and Steward were empowered to hold a Court of Record every fourth Friday, and to take cognizance of all pleas of trespass, debt, contract, and fraud, within the borough; provided the respective actions were for sums not exceeding 6l. 13s. 4d.

At the period of the Domesday Survey, this manor was held by Hugh Lupus, Earl of Chester, from whom it has descended through various great families; particularly of the Barons de Someri, Clare, De Audley, and Stafford. On the accession of Elizabeth, it was vested in the Crown; but that Sovereign granted it to the *Smiths*, of one of whom, Anthony Smith, Esq. it was purchased, in the time of James the First, by the celebrated SIR BAPTIST HICKES. This gentleman was created Viscount Campden, in the year 1629, with remainder to the noble family of Noel; Edward Lord Noel, having married Juliana, eldest daughter, and co-heiress, of Sir Baptist. The late Henry Noel, sixth Earl of Gainsborough, in the year 1798, bequeathed the manor, with other estates in this neighbourhood, to his nephew, Gerard Noel Edwards, Esq. who has since assumed the name of Noel, by Royal Sign Manual.

The buildings are principally ranged in one street, nearly a mile in length; about the middle of which, are the *Court* and *Market Houses*. The former is an ancient structure; probably of the commencement of the fifteenth century, or earlier: the latter was erected, by Sir Baptist Hickes, in the year 1624. A capacious mansion, yet remaining, of nearly the same age as the Court-House,

* Bigland's Gloucestershire, Vol. I. p. 278.

House, is said to have been erected as a residence of one of the wool merchants.

The *Church*, dedicated to St. James, stands on an easy eminence above the town, in the hamlet of BERRINGTON, which tradition affirms, received its name from the tumuli, or barrows, raised over the bodies of those who were slain in a great battle fought here between the Mercians and the West Saxons; whose respective encampments are said to have been at Willersey, and Meen-Hill, in this vicinity: a Bridge at Berrington, now bears the name of Battle Bridge.* The Church is an elegant structure, nearly symmetrical, and consists of a spacious nave, sixty feet high, with an aisle on each side, a chancel, and a tower at the west end, 120 feet high, ornamented in a very chaste style, and finished by battlements, and twelve pinnacles: at the east end of each aisle is a Chapel; that on the south side is the burial-place of the families of Hickes and Noel. "To the munificence of the wool merchants, in the flourishing period above mentioned, it is probable that this beautiful building owed its erection; several of them are here interred, with brass effigies and memorials. From a grey marble flat stone in the Church, for WILLIAM GREVIL,† who died in 1401, on which he and his wife are represented by brass plates, standing in two niches, adorned with pinnacles, and exactly corresponding with the fine Gothic carved work

* Rudder's Gloucestershire, p. 319.

† "William Greville was seated at Campden, in Gloucestershire, and had issue, William, his son and heir. They were both living in the twenty-first Rich. 2. 1397; and the father being wrote William Grevel, of Campden, lent the King 300 marks; and Aug. 10, 1397, the King acknowledges the receipt of the said loan from him, and promises payment thereof in the Quindens of Easter next. He died in the 3rd. of Henry 4th. as appears from the probate of his last will and testament, dated at Campden, April 2, 1401. He therein orders his body to be buried in the Church of the Blessed Virgin Mary, at Campden, and bequeaths 100 marks to the repairs of it: also 200l. to maintain four Chaplains, to say mass for 10 years following, for his soul, and the souls of his ancestors. His son, John Greville, resided also at Campden, being Sheriff for Gloucestershire, and the Marches of Wales, 6th. Hen. 4."

Collins's Peerage, Vol. V. p. 199, 200.

work over the great door and belfrey windows, at the west side of the tower, it is conjectured that Grevil either built, or contributed largely, to the building of the latter;* and a propitiatory inscription over the north door, also renders it probable, that the north aisle was partly erected at his charge. Round the verge of the slab is the following inscription :

Hic jacet Willielmus Grevil, de Campedene, quondam Civis London, et flos Senator Lanar totius Angliar qui obiit pmo die mens Octobris An Dni Willmo CCC pmo. + Hic jacet Pariona uxor predicti Willmo que obiit Decimo die mensis Septembris Anno Dni Willmo CCC.LXXXI. Quor. Ani. ppicietur Deus Amen.

Several other monumental *Brasses* are in this Church ; and in the Chapel in the south aisle, are some of as fine marble monuments as any in England. That to the memory of BAPTIST, LORD HICKES, Viscount Campden, and his LADY ELIZABETH, is a very stately altar tomb ; on which are recumbent effigies of those personages, in their robes of state, and coronets. The former died in October, 1629, at the age of seventy-eight ; having, as his epitaph expresses it, “ by the blessing of God, on his ingenious endeavours, arose to an ample estate, but of which, in his lifetime, he disposed to charitable uses, to the value of 10,000*l*.” Bigland, or rather Mr. Dallaway, imagines, that this sumptuous monument was executed either by Nicholas Stone, or his sons, “ it being no way unworthy of such eminent sculptors, and this kingdom affording no other capable of so great a work.”† Another monument records the memory of EDWARD, LORD NOEL, and his LADY JULIANA, whose figures are displayed in Parian marble, as large as life, standing in their winding sheets, within a niche, represented as contained in a cabinet, the folding doors of which are thrown open, and bear inscriptions. This monument was erected in the year 1664, at the cost of the Lady Juliana, by Joshua Marshall, whom Walpole has but slightly mentioned, though

* Rudge's Gloucestershire, Vol. I. p. 12.

† Bigland's Gloucestershire, Vol. I. p. 282.

though this is a very highly finished performance: Lord Noel died in 1642; his lady survived him thirty-eight years. On a mural monument, in remembrance of LADY PENELOPE NOEL, daughter of the former, is her bust, in a Vandyke dress; the drapery finely executed. This is so much in the style of the figures of Alderman Blackleach, and his wife, in Gloucester Cathedral, that it may be attributed to the same artist; who, most probably, was Francesco Fanelli. Lady Penelope died in 1633, at the age of twenty-two. Various other funeral memorials are contained in this edifice. The effect of the interior is destroyed by the pews, which are irregular, and badly placed. A curious *Cope*, of crimson velvet, semée of ducal coronets and etoiles, and having portraits of Saints embroidered on the border, is preserved here in an old chest. This was probably used in the Catholic times, when four chantries existed here, with competent endowments.

Near the Church are some remains of a very magnificent Mansion, erected by Sir Baptist Hickes, soon after he purchased the manor, early in the seventeenth century. "From an accurate plan and elevation, still extant, it appears to have been an edifice in the boldest style of that day. It consisted of four fronts; the principal towards the garden, upon the grand terrace: at the east angle was a lateral projection, of some feet, with spacious bow windows; in the centre, a portico, with a series of columns, of the five orders, as in the Schools of Oxford; and an open corridor. The parapet was finished with pediments, of a capricious taste; and the chimneys were twisted pillars with Corinthian capitals: a very capacious dome (or lantern) issued from the roof, which was regularly illuminated for the direction of travellers during the night. This immense building was enriched with frizes and entablatures, most profusely sculptured: it is reported to have occupied, with its offices, a site of eight acres, and to have been erected at the expense of 29,000l."* The destruction of this fabric was occasioned by the loyal spirit of Baptist, Lord Noel, grandson of Sir Baptist, who, during the Civil Wars, commanded

* Bigland's Gloucestershire, Vol. I. p. 279.

manded it to be set on fire, that it might not be garrisoned by the Parliament's forces, which he understood were advancing; but, as it afterwards appeared, they did not approach nearer than Warwick. The principal remains are the grand entrance, composed of two low pavillions, connected by a screen, and two banquetting-houses, which terminated the terrace. Who was the architect of this pile is unknown. "A sameness of style pervades the *Hospital*, and other public buildings, which Sir Baptist gave for the benefit of the inhabitants of Campden; all of which are distinguished by his armorial ensigns."* The population of this parish, as returned under the late act, was 1213; the number of houses, 255. Various donations have been made, for the use of the poor, and other useful purposes; particularly by Sir Baptist Hickee, whose "*good deedes done to this towne*," have found an accurate register in Stow.†

DR. ROBERT HARRIS, a celebrated preacher in the interest of the Parliament, and President of Trinity College, Oxford, during the Interregnum, was born at Campden in 1578: he died in his eightieth year. MR. GEORGE BALLARD, author of *Memoirs of British Ladies*, was also a native of this town. He was one of those singular compositions, observe his biographers, "that shoot forward without culture."‡ Being of a delicate habit, he was apprenticed to a taylor, in which lowly situation he obtained a knowledge of the Saxon language, when the labors of the day were over,

* Sir Baptist appears to have had a great fondness for building. In 1612, he built *Campden-House*, at Kensington, which still remains in the best style of that age. He also erected the Sessions House, called *Hickee's Hall*, which formerly stood in St. John's Street, London, in an open space, nearly opposite the end of St. John's Lane. The fashion of building enormous houses succeeded the dismantling of Castles, by Henry the Seventh; and was much practised, in the reigns of Elizabeth and James, by the great nobility, who, deserting their baronial residences, indulged themselves in rivalry of immense expense; and this conduct was of course imitated by opulent merchants, the founders of new families.

† Survey of London, Edit. 1633. p. 260.

‡ Gen. Biogr. Dict. Vol. II. p. 34. 8vo.

over, and during the hours which are generally devoted to sleep. His attention to learning having come to the knowledge of Lord Chedworth, and other gentlemen who frequented his Lordship's hunt round Campden, they generously offered him an annuity of 100*l.* but this he modestly declined; observing, that 60*l.* yearly was fully adequate to his wishes. On this small sum he seated himself at Oxford, that he might enjoy the advantage of the Bodleian Library; and, after some time, he was made one of the University Bedels. His intense application contributed to shorten his life; and he died in 1755, rather young. He left large collections, which yet remain in manuscript; his only published work being the *Memoirs* already noticed. Hearne has mentioned him as a great admirer of Stow; and an account of Campden Church, written by him, was read at a meeting of the Society of Antiquaries.

The vicinity of Campden was the theatre of the *Coteswold Games*, which in the reigns of James the First, and his unfortunate successor, were greatly celebrated in this part of England. They were instituted by a public-spirited attorney, of Barton-on-the-Heath, in Warwickshire, named ROBERT DOVER, and, like the Olympic Games of the ancients, consisted of most kinds of manly exercises. The victors were rewarded by prizes, distributed by the institutor, who, arrayed in a discarded habit of King James', superintended the games in person for many years. The meetings were annually held on Whit-Thursday, and were frequently attended by an immense multitude. Ben Jonson, Drayton, and other poets of that age, wrote verses on this festivity, which, in 1636, were collected into one volume, and published under the title of *Annalia Dubrensia*. These diversions were at length terminated by the breaking out of the Civil Wars; but the remembrance of them is yet preserved by an annual meeting of young persons on *Dover Hill*, an eminence about half a mile from Campden, where the principal games were celebrated.

SAINTBURY, anciently *Suineberie*, is said to have obtained the latter appellation from the Danish King Svein, who is reported to have encamped here. This derivation receives support by the
appearance

appearance of entrenchments near the Church; and an artificial mount of earth here, is yet called *Castle Tump*, and seems to have been raised to overlook the adjacent country. The arch of the north door of Saintbury Church is of Saxon architecture.

On the summit of a hill, in the parish of WILLERSEY, is an ancient *Camp*, the area of which includes about sixty acres, and the banks are in tolerable preservation. From this eminence is a beautiful prospect of the town and vale of Evesham, with the Malvern and Breedon Hills in the back-ground. An estate in this parish is noticed by Rudder, as being subject to a *Rent-Charge*, (proportioned to the rate of the land-tax,) payable to a certain family, as a recompense for the fidelity of their ancestors, in preserving Charles the Second, by concealing him in the oak.

MÆON, or MEEN HILL, in the parishes of Mickleton and Queenton, is the site of a very extensive Encampment, with double ramparts, supposed to have been formed by the West Saxons, previous to the battle near Campden. Drayton has celebrated this eminence in his *Poly-Olbion*: its summit commands a most extensive and beautiful tract of country.

HINTON, or HINTON-ON-THE-GREEN, anciently *Hynetune*, a small village in the Vale of Evesham, was granted to the Abbey at Gloucester, in the year 981, by Elfseda, sister of King Ethelred, who, at her request, exempted the manor from all secular charges. In the fifteenth of Edward the First, on a writ of *quo warranto*, the right of free-warren, and of holding markets and fairs, was confirmed to the Abbey, to which the manor continued to belong till the Dissolution. It has since passed through various families, and is now the property, with nearly the whole parish, of William Baker, Esq. who purchased it in the year 1792. The Manor-House is a spacious and convenient edifice, standing near the *Church*, which was rebuilt, about the year 1315, at the expense of the Abbey at Gloucester.

The manor of ASTON SOMERVILLE is the property of Lord Somerville, and is remarkable for having been vested in his family for upwards of six hundred years. Near the Church was

anciently an edifice, surrounded by a moat; but now wholly destroyed.

The parish of CHILD'S WICKHAM, being a peculiar, the Bishop and Arch-Deacon are entertained at the Manor-House, where, by custom, the Lord provides his visitors "with a cake, a loaf, a pound of butter, a quarter of a sage cheese, a quarter of a plain cheese, a dozen of ale, and six bottles of strong beer."* Another custom of this manor has been immemorially observed at Whitsuntide, when the Lord "furnishes a certain quantity of malt for ale to be given away, and flour to make cakes. At the same time, every one that keeps a cow, sends curd: others send sugar, plums, and flour; and the landholders contribute sixpence each: from this fund every poor person in the parish may receive a quart of ale, a cake, a piece of cheese, and a cheese-cake."†

BUCKLAND was given to the Abbey of Gloucester, by Kynred, King of the Mercians; but, after the Dissolution, it was exchanged for lands in Yorkshire, by Sir Richard Gresham, Lord Mayor of London, in 1536: from his family it was conveyed by the marriage of a daughter and co-heiress of Sir Thomas Gresham, founder of the Royal Exchange, to Sir John Thynne; whose descendant, the present Marquis of Bath, has lately sold it to Thomas Philips, Esq. of Middle Hill, in Warwickshire. The *Church* is in the style of the fifteenth century, and consists of a nave, aisles, and chancel, with an embattled tower, at the angles of which are grotesque sculptures of flying demons for water spouts. "In the east window of the chancel are three compartments of beautiful painted glass, executed with such brilliancy of coloring, and correctness of outline, as to prove their having been done when the art had gained its utmost perfection."‡ They represent three of the sacraments of the Romish Church; that is, the *Ceremony of Baptism*, the *Office of Matrimony*,§ and *Extreme Unction*. The *Rec-*

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tory

* Rudge's Gloucestershire, Vol. I. p. 49.

† Ibid.

‡ Bigland's Gloucestershire, Vol. I. p. 264.

§ This has been engraved for the Gloucestershire Antiquities by Mr. Lysons, who, from the dress and ornaments, imagines the paintings to have been executed in the time of Edward the Fourth.

tory House was built about 1520, by William Grafton, who was then Rector, and whose device, or rebus, the graft of a tree issuing from a tun, is displayed in a window of the hall.

The manor of TODDINGTON, at the time of the Domesday Survey, was held by Herald, grandson of Goda, youngest daughter of Ethelred the Second. His son, John de Sudeley, married Grace, daughter of Henry de Traci, Lord of Barnstaple, in Devonshire, in the reign of King Stephen, and it has continued in their successors till the present time; being now the property of Charles Hanbury Tracy, Esq. who, in the year 1798, married the Hon. Henrietta Susannah, daughter and sole heiress of the late Lord Viscount Tracy. TODDINGTON HOUSE, the ancient seat of this noble family, is a spacious building; it was erected about the latter end of the seventeenth century, and is now undergoing some repairs to adapt it to the present style of living, it having been lately partly destroyed by fire. The gardens and pleasure grounds are disposed in the modern style: the park, which lies on the south of the Manor-House, is well planted, and includes about 150 acres: it abounds with rabbits. In the chancel of Toddington Church are preserved nine figures of Apostles, delicately finished, and about eighteen inches in height, supposed to have been brought from the Chapel at Hayles Abbey.

HAYLES, or HALES, was, previously to the Conquest, in the possession of a Saxon, named Osgot; but was afterwards given by the Conqueror to William Leuric, a Norman knight. Having passed through various possessors, it reverted to the Crown in 1226, and was granted by Henry the Third to his brother, Richard, King of the Romans, and Earl of Cornwall, for the purpose of accomplishing a vow which the Earl had made when in danger of shipwreck in the British Channel. In pursuance of this vow, he founded an ABBEY here for Cistercian monks about the year 1246, and removed into it twenty monks from the Abbey of Beaulieu in the New Forest, Hampshire. The buildings were finished in the most magnificent style of that age, at the expense of 10,000 marks, as the founder himself is recorded to have informed Matthew Paris, the historian. On the ninth of November, 1251,

the Abbey was dedicated to St. Mary, and All Saints; the Church, the Cloisters, and the Refectory, being then completed. The solemnity was graced by the presence of Henry the Third, his Queen, and almost all the nobility and prelates in England. Mass was celebrated at thirteen altars, by as many Bishops; and on the Sunday following the dedication, all the visitors, including a retinue of 300 knights, were sumptuously entertained together. In 1271 the chief part of the Abbey was destroyed by fire; but it was again restored, though at the additional expence of 8000 marks, by the founder, who dying the following year, was buried near the high altar: the body of his wife, Senchia, had been previously interred there; and in 1300, Edmund, their son, Earl of Cornwall, was also deposited in the same place. The riches of the Abbey were much increased by a gift from this Earl, of a vessel, reputed to contain a portion of the blood of CHRIST, which, in the age of credulity and superstition, attracted innumerable visitors and oblations, and obtained the Abbey great privileges* from succeeding Popes. This esteemed relique had been

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brought

* The nature and extent of these privileges may be seen by the following extract from Leland's Collectanea. "The Yere of our Lord MCCLXX. Edmond the nobyll Earle of Cornuale brought a porcyon of precyous Blode of CRYSTE JHESU, that he shedde for Mankynde upon the Crosse, unto the Abbey of Hayles upon Holy rode day in Herviste, where GOD dailie sheweth Miracles throwe the virtue of that precyous Blode. And therefore Pope John XXIIIIth. hath grauntedc for evermoire to the Abbot of that Monasterii of Hayles, power to syne 2 Confessors, the whiche may here confession of all Pylgrymes, and asoyle them of all Synnes, excepte the poyntes that bethe reservede to the Pope's own person. Also the seyde Pope John hath grauntede to all Bretherne and Systeme of the Chapter House of the seyde Monasterri, power to chuse hem a Confessor, the whiche may confesse and asoyle them in the point of Dethe of all Synnes, none excepte. Also Pope Eugeni IVth. hathe grauntede to the Abbot of the seyde Monasterri, power to syne 7 Confessors at the Feste of Corpus Christi, the whiche may asoyle all Pylgrimes of all ther Synnes. Moreover the seyde Pope Eugeni hathe grauntede 7 Yere, and 3 Lentes, to all those that gevythe any Thinge to the Worship of God, and that precyous Blode and other relykis that bethe in that place. Also Pope Calixt the IIIde. hathe grauntede full Remission at the Feste of Corpus Christi, and at the principal Festes in the Yere; that ys to sey, at the Holyroday in May, and Holyo. lay in

brought by the Earl from Germany, where it had been discovered among the stores of "the ancient Emperors;" and one part of the quantity obtained, he gave to this Abbey; and "the other 2 Partes hee dydde reserve"* till he had founded the *Abbey of Bonnehommes*, at Ashridge, in Buckinghamshire, when they were assigned to that foundation, and proved an equally prolific source of wealth. In the year 1307, 1st Edward I. Walter de Flagge, who was then Abbot, was summoned to a great council held at Carlisle: but at what period the mitre and pontificals were finally conceded, is uncertain. On the Dissolution, the possessions of the Abbey were estimated at 357l. 7s. 8d, annually; and the jewels and ornaments were found to be of great value. Edward the First granted the site of the Abbey, and the greatest part of the manor, to Sir Thomas Seymour. It is now the property of C. H. Tracy, Esq. of Toddington, it having been purchased by one of the Lords Tracy in the reign of Charles the First.

The situation of Hayles Abbey is extremely fine; its site being a rich meadow, sheltered on the north and east sides by high hills, covered with wood. It appears from the ruins, that the buildings formed a quadrangle, with a cloister, inclosing an area about forty yards square. The south-west angle contained the Abbot's lodgings; and part of the entrance tower still remains. This is embattled, and contained a great chamber with large bow windows. The other part of the Abbot's lodgings, which are said to have

in Herveste, at yche of thes Festys, with 4 days followynge; and also the 3d. weke in Lent, and eche of thes 4, full Remission of all Synnes. Also 15 Cardinals hathe graunted yche be himself 100 Dayes of Pardon to all hem that honoure that precyous Blode, and other Reliquies whiche be in that forsayde place, and put to ther helpynge Hondes to the welfare of that forsayde Monasterii of Haylis." In Ames's Typogr. Antiq. Vol. I. p. 285, is mentioned, "a Little Treatise (in metre) of divers Miracles shewed for the Portion of Christ's Blood at Hayles Abbey," &c. printed by Richard Pynson, in Quarto, but without date. The visitors at the Reformation, reported that the blood was that of some animal frequently renewed, and inclosed in a crystal bottle. one side of which was more opaque than the other, the better to carry on the deception.

* Holinshed, p. 781.

have been rebuilt a short time previous to the Dissolution, extended over the cloisters; some broken arches of the latter, in the lancet form, with ornaments of trefoils, are yet standing; as well as the conventual barn, and various offices, now inhabited as cottages. When the Abbey was dissolved, many of the ornaments, such as painted glass, chimney-pieces, and figured bricks, were collected by the neighbouring gentry to decorate their own mansions. *Hayles Church*, a very small and mean edifice, was constructed from the ruins of the Abbey, before 1603, by William Hobby, Esq. who was then Lord of the Manor; and died in that year, at the great age of 103. His wife was the daughter of John Hodgkins, to whom the manor had been granted by Queen Elizabeth.

WINCHICOMB,

WRITTEN *Winchelcumb* in the Domesday Book, was formerly a town of considerable importance, and is in that record styled a borough, which it still is by prescriptive right. It was anciently the site of a *Castle*, and of a MITRED ABBEY, sufficiently capacious for 200 Benedictine Monks: but every vestige of those buildings has been levelled with the dust; and the places where they stood are but imperfectly remembered. By whom the Castle was erected is unknown; but the foundation of the *Abbey*, anno 798, is ascribed to Kenulph, King of Mercia, who is said, by Leland, to have had a palace here. The spot chosen for the Abbey had been previously occupied by a Nunnery founded by King Offa: its dedication was celebrated with great pomp; the solemnity being conducted by Wulfrid, Archbishop of Canterbury, and twelve Bishops, in presence of Kenulph himself; his prisoner, Cuthred, King of Kent, who was released on the occasion; Sired, King of the West Saxons; and most of the Mercian nobles: many rich gifts were at the same time distributed by Kenulph; who, on his death, in 820, was buried in the Abbey Church. Kenelm, his son, then but seven years of age, was murdered by his tutor, Askebert, at the instigation of Quendred, his elder sister, who was prompted to the murder by the hope of succeeding to the kingdom. His remains having been discovered in a wood, and that, according

to the Monkish legends,* miraculously, they were removed to the Abbey, where a shrine being erected over them, the Convent became greatly enriched by the offerings that were made by superstitious visitants. The Abbey was afterwards destroyed by the Danes, and rebuilt, about the year 985, by Oswald, Bishop of Worcester, who made it a College of Seculars, and dedicated it anew, to the Virgin Mary and St. Kenelm. The possessions of this Abbey were numerous; and at the period of the Domesday Survey, no fewer than nineteen manors in this county were annexed to it, independently of Winchcomb itself. In 1265, its Abbot, John de Yanworth, or Yarmouth, was summoned to Parliament; and from that period the succeeding Abbots had the same privilege. Richard Ancelme, the twenty-eighth and last Abbot, subscribed to the King's supremacy in 1534, and surrendered his Abbey, and its possessions, in December, 1539. His immediate predecessor, Richard de Kederminster, is recorded, by Browne Willis, to have written a very valuable history of the foundation of this Monastery; and another of the lives of the Abbots; the latter of which was burnt in the fire of London. The Abbey, and all its buildings, were totally destroyed very soon after the Dissolution, though traditionally reported to have been extremely magnificent. The manor is now the property of Lord Rivers.

Winchcomb, with a small adjoining and dependent tract, is said to have been a sherifffdom, or county, in the Anglo-Saxon time, and

* According to these traditions, the young King was murdered in a place called the White Cow's Valley, in Clent Wood, and his body thrown into a well. The murder remained for a short time undiscovered, but was at length revealed by a dove, which flying over St. Peter's at Rome, dropped a strip of parchment, with this inscription, on the high altar: *In Clent, in Cowberche, hed beweyyd, lyth Kenelme*. An Englishman present interpreted the writing to the Pope, who informed the English Princes of the barbarous deed; and the body was found, and taken to Winchcomb for burial. While the clergy, and others, were conveying the corpse into the town, in solemn procession, Quendred sought to disturb the ceremony, by looking out of her window, and singing the 109th Psalm; but as she was repeating the words, "Let it thus happen from the Lord unto my enemies, and unto those who speak evil against my soul;" her eye-balls fell from her head; and the ground being dyed with the blood, retained its sanguinary hue for many ages!

and to have so continued till the reign of Canute, whose Viceroy, Edric, surnamed Streona, divested it of its independence, and annexed it to Gloucestershire. Its situation is extremely beautiful; it stands at the base of several hills, having the little river Isborne flowing near it on the south and east. Leland testifies that it was anciently surrounded by a wall; and, from information recorded by the same author, it appears to have extended much further, particularly to the southward. The houses are mostly low, and of stone; they are principally ranged in two streets, crossing each other. The *Church*, dedicated to St. Peter, was begun, in the reign of Henry the Sixth, by the Abbot William Winchcombe, who completed the east part: the remainder was finished by subscriptions among the parishioners, assisted by the munificence of Ralph Boteler, Lord Sudeley. It is a spacious building, consisting of a nave, aisles, and chancel, with an embattled tower at the west end, opening by an arch into the nave. The body of the Church is also ornamented with battlements and pinnacles; and on every buttress are monstrous caricatures of human and animal heads: on the south is a neat porch, with tracery on the cieling. The pillars in the interior are octagon: the nave is separated from the chancel by a clumsy gallery, and a carved screen below it. The altar is detached from the wall, and covered with an ancient, but once magnificent, carpet, embroidered with a border of Saints, in colored silk and silver. The government of the town is vested in two Bailiffs and ten Assistants, from whom the Bailiffs are annually chosen at the Court-leet. The population of this parish, as ascertained under the act of 1801, was 1256; the number of houses, 301. From its recluse situation, among hills, and the unevenness of the roads, Winchcomb possesses but very little trade; a paper mill, and tan-yard, being its chief sources of labor. The *Workhouse* is a very ancient, irregular building; in which the poor are employed in weaving and spinning linen for their own use.

About a quarter of a mile south-east from Winchcomb, are the ruins of SUDELEY or SUDLEY CASTLE, which excites the idea of a castellated mansion, rather than of a baronial fortress.

This building was erected by Ralph, Lord Boteler, an eminent statesman in the reign of Henry the Sixth, on the site of a more ancient castle, which appears to have been the residence of Herald, son to Radulf, Earl of Hereford, who possessed, and had his chief seat at Sudeley in the time of the Conqueror. Ralph, Herald's grandson, assumed the name de Sudeley, and in his family the manor continued till the forty-first of Edward the Third, when, on failure of male issue, Sudeley was allotted, on a division of the estates, to Thomas Boteler, son of William de Boteler, and Joan de Sudeley, a co-heiress. Ralph de Boteler, a younger son of Thomas, succeeded on the death of his brother; and being a zealous partizan of the house of Lancaster, was made Lord Chamberlain of the Household of Henry the Sixth; and in the twentieth of the same reign, was created a Baron, by the name of Lord Sudeley. The following year he was constituted Treasurer of England, and sent on an embassy to France; as he again was in the twenty-third of the same King. This nobleman erected the Castle, and here he lived in the decline of life, till the jealousy of the successful Yorkists forced him to abandon his splendid retirement, and resign his newly-raised mansion to the King.

The Lord Sudeley, says Leland, "that builded the Castle, was a famous man of warre in K. Henry V. and K. Henry VI. dayes; and was an Admirall, as I have heard, on sea; whereupon it was supposed and spoken, that it was partly builded *ex spoliis Gallorum*: and some speake of a tower in it called Potmare's Tower, that it should be made of a ransome of his. One thinge was to be noted in this Castle, that part of the windowes of it were glazed with berall. K. Edw. IV. bore noe good will to the L. Sudeley, as a man suspected to be, in heart, K. Hen. VI. his man: whereupon, by complaynts he was attached; and going up to London, he looked from the hill to Sudeley, and sayd, *Sudeley Castle, thou are the traytor, not I.* After, he made an honest declaration, and sould his Castle to K. Edw. IV."

Sudeley continued in the Crown till the reign of Edward the Sixth, when it was granted to Sir Thomas Seymour, who having restored its neglected buildings, retired hither with Catherine Parr,

the Queen Dowager, who had honored him with her hand; and who here fell a sacrifice to the ambition of the unprincipled wretch whom she had espoused. She died in child-bed, in the second year of her marriage, not without suspicion of poison; and before her death, severely reproached the Admiral for his ingratitude and ill usage. Her grave was discovered in the Chapel here, in the year 1782; and the body being taken up, her name and titles were found marked on the cerecloth in which it was inclosed.*

After the attainder and death of Seymour, the Castle was granted to William Parr, Marquis of Northampton, who forfeited it soon afterwards. On the accession of Queen Mary, it was bestowed on Sir John Bridges, Knight, of Coberly, a celebrated warrior, and strenuous supporter of her right to the Crown. In 1554, his services were rewarded with the title of Baron Chandos, of Sudeley, with limitation to his heirs male. Giles, third Lord Chandos, entertained Queen Elizabeth in his Castle here, in 1592. His nephew, Grey Bridges, fifth Lord Chandos, was styled *King of the Cotswold*, from his hospitality, and numerous retinue. George, his successor, fought bravely in the cause of Charles the First; but as the contest advanced, the Republicans prevailed; and his Castle was forced to surrender, after several assaults, to a body of musqueteers, under Colonel Massie, in January, 1642. Then it was that this splendid mansion became a ruin; for the conquerors indulging a splenetic resentment at the opposition they had met with, dismantled the walls, and habitable parts; and having destroyed the memorials of the dead, stripped the

* “Ballard, and others, who have mentioned this unfortunate Queen, were not able to discover where she died, nor where she was buried; but, from a manuscript concerning her funeral, published in Rudder’s Gloucestershire, it appeared, that she died, and was buried, at Sudeley. From this hint, Dr. Nash, and some friends, went to Sudeley, on purpose to discover the body in the Chapel, in which all monumental memorials had long since perished; the building having been unroofed, and bared to the very walls, in the unfortunate Rebellion. A little way under ground, he discovered the coffin: upon opening it, the body was found in perfect preservation; but on coming to the air, turned in part to dust.” *Willyams’s Hist. of Sudeley Castle*. See also *Archæologia*, Vol. IX.

the Chapel, even of its very roof. Soon afterwards, the Republicans were dispossessed by the Royalists; but in 1644, the Castle was again surrendered to the united forces of Massie and Sir William Waller. On the death of the above George, Lord Chandos, without issue male, his estates went, by bequest, to Jane, his widow, who afterwards marrying George Pitt, of Stratfield Say, in Hampshire, conveyed them to his family; and his descendant, George Pitt, Baron Rivers, is now owner.

Considered as a ruin, *Sudeley Castle* is grand, rather than strikingly picturesque. It is every where commanded by a bird's-eye view, excepting from Winchcomb, and the elevation is very gradual. Its extent, and lofty towers, with the rich architecture of the Hall, in various fragments, indicate the magnificence celebrated by Leland, and by Fuller, who, in his quaint phraseology, calls it, "of subjects' castles, the most handsome habitation; and of subjects' habitations, the strongest castle." We look, with curiosity and regret, on the fractured windows which once contained *Beryls*.* The Chapel is uncommonly light and elegant, and certainly in too pure a style for the age of Seymour, to whom its erection is commonly attributed. With greater accuracy, it may be referred to the time of Lord Boteler, the builder of the Castle, when that kind of ecclesiastical architecture had attained its zenith. At the west end is a large window, having a beautiful canopied niche on each side; and above it, rising over the roof, a sort of square turret. In this Chapel† the first five Lords Chandos were interred; the sixth was buried in a small side Chapel, or aisle, which is now used as the Parish-Church.

GUITING PARK, the residence and property of — Snell, Esq. abounds with beautiful scenery, it being situated in an extremely pleasant, and cultivated part of the Cotswold: the mansion is an elegant and compact edifice.

At WITHINGTON, a NUNNERY was founded in the early Saxon times; and in the eighth century, Wilfrith, Bishop of Worcester,

* As the beryl is an opaque stone, the windows were more probably furnished with stained glass, so called in Leland's time.

† An Engraving of this building, and four others, of the ruins of the Castle, have been given in Lysons's Gloucestershire Antiquities.

Worcester, obtained a synodal decree, that it should be annexed to the See of Worcester, after the death of the then Abbess. His successor, however, re-granted it to Æthelburga, who was Abbess of a religious house in Worcester, on condition, that both this and her own establishment should devolve to his See after her decease. The manor of Withington, which formed the endowment of the Nunnery, became a possession of the Bishops of Worcester through this agreement, and is still held under that See. The present lessee is George Knapp, Esq. The *Church* is the burial-place of the Chedworth family: some parts of it are very ancient; on the angles of the tower are grotesque figures of demons.

At *Listercombe*, near the *Wood Barrow*, in the parish of CHEDWORTH, which gives title to the Lords Chedworth, who possess vast estates in this part of Gloucestershire, a ROMAN BATH was discovered in the year 1760: most of the bricks were marked ARVIRI. On the neighbouring tumulus was a huge, unwrought stone, which being removed by the strength of a double team of oxen, great quantities of human bones were discovered.*

The manor of RENDCOMBE has belonged successively to the noble families of Clare, De Audley, Nevill, Stafford, and Guise, and is now the property of Shute Barrington, Bishop of Durham, in right of his Lady. The mansion is an elegant building, situated in an extensive park, abounding in wood, and furnishing many fine prospects. The *Church*, a well-proportioned and handsome fabric, is said to have been erected by one of the *Tames*, of Fairford.

On the downs, in the parish of NORTH CERNEY, about one mile south-east of the village, an annual *Race-Course* has been long established. "The imperfect vestiges of a Roman Specula, or Out-post, with circumvallations, are here to be traced; and a *Lachrymatory*, of a blue vitrified substance, was formerly discovered."†

DUNTSBOURN ABBOTS, so called from having belonged to the Abbots of Gloucester, was devised to the Earl of Radnor, in the year 1770, by Sir Mark Stewart Pleydell, Bart. Sir Mark,
a few

* Rudder's Gloucestershire, p. 334.

† Bigland, Vol. I. p. 285.

a few years before, erected a villa, on a singular plan, on an eminence in this parish, in a spot distinguished for the beauty of the surrounding scenery.

SAPERTON was the property and residence of SIR ROBERT ATKYNS, celebrated for his *Ancient and Present State of Gloucestershire*, which was first published in 1712, the year following Sir Robert's death. He lies buried in Saperton Church, beneath a handsome monument, on which he is represented by a figure of white marble, in a recumbent position. His father, Sir Robert Atkyns, Knight of the Bath, and Chief Baron in the Court of Exchequer, purchased the manor of the Poole family, some of whom also have monuments in the Church. The manor now belongs to the *Bathursts*, it having been purchased by Allen, first Lord Bathurst. In this parish, near a place called the LARK'S BUSH, in the hamlet of Frampton, a great quantity of silver and brass *Roman Coins*, of the Lower Empire, was discovered in the year 1759, by a waggon accidentally passing over the spot where they had been buried, and breaking the urns that contained them. In this vicinity are vestiges of an ancient *Camp*; to the south-east of which is an eminence called *Beacon Hill*. The remarkable subterraneous passage, called the *Saperton Tunnel*, has been already described.*

CHALFORD, a chapelry to Bisley, is a populous tything, chiefly situated on the borders of the river Frome, in a romantic valley, called *Chalford Bottom*. The cloth manufacture is here carried on to a great extent; and one of the numerous mills erected on this river, is coeval with the more general introduction of that business into this part of Gloucestershire, about the year 1560. The scenery in this vicinity is uncommonly fine. A *Spring*, flowing by several apertures from the hill on the south side of the river, is remarkable for its petrifying qualities: this spring has been celebrated by the muse of Mr. Beloe.

BISLEY, though advanced, by charter, to the rank of a market-town, in the reign of Charles the Second, by the influence of
Sir

* Thames and Severn Canal, p. 513.

Sir Robert Atkyns, then Lord of the Manor, is but little frequented as such, its situation rendering it of very difficult access. In the reign of Edward the First, the manor became the property of the *Mortimers*, Earls of March, who continued Lords for nearly three centuries, till it devolved to Edward, Duke of York, afterwards Edward the Fourth, about whose time the *Church* is supposed to have been partly rebuilt, from the cognizances of the houses of York and Stafford, and the arms of Mortimer and Clare, which appear on different parts. Under a window, in the south aisle, is the monument of a *Croisader*, as appears by his effigies: this is reported to represent one of the Nottingham family, which was settled at Cotes and Cirencester, in the time of Edward the First. This building was new pewed in the year 1771, when a fresco painting, about ten feet square, of *St. Michael subduing the Fallen Angels*, in very lively colors,* was discovered against the north wall; but it was immediately defaced: the monuments, and commemorative inscriptions, are numerous. In the Church-yard is an ancient *Stone Cross*, which appears, from the Manuscripts of Mr. Abel Wantner, in the Bodleian Library, to have been erected over a deep well, “into which a man falling, the Church-yard was excommunicated for three years, and the inhabitants were obliged to carry their dead to Bibury.” From the style of the ornaments, Mr. Lysons supposes this Cross to have been built in the thirteenth century: on its top has been placed the ancient Font that was removed from the Church, when it was new pewed. The extension of the manufacture of cloth introduced many new inhabitants into this parish, who, availing themselves of the waste land, settled on the declivities of the Great Common; and the cottages which they erected, now form a detached hamlet, called the *LYNCHEs*. The Common appears, from Holinshed,† to have been given to the poor of Bisley, by Roger Mortimer, Earl of March, in the reign of Edward the Third: it then consisted of 1200 acres, but has been much lessened by inclosures since that period. The inhabitants of Bisley parish,

* Bigland, Vol. I. p. 192.

† Descri. Britayne, Vol. I. p. 123.

parish, as enumerated in 1801, were 4227; the number of houses, 902. It may be worthy of record, that a person, named '*James Shaksper*,' occurs in the Register, as buried here, March 13th, 1570; and that the name is not repeated. The celebrated ROGER BACON is traditionally claimed as a native of this parish; but his biographer, Dr. Cave, and others, give that honor, on clearer evidence, to Ilchester, in the county of Somerset.

In Wantner's Manuscripts* is mentioned a discovery that was made at LILLYHORNE, in Bisley parish, of "a vault, with several adjoining rooms, with Tessellated Pavements, and niches in the sides of the walls." The Rev. Mr. Fosbrooke has also noticed, a votive bas-relief, with the inscription MARTI OLLUDIO, and other Roman remains, of coarse workmanship, that were discovered at the CUSTOM SCRUBS, in this parish.†

MISERDEN, a corruption from *Musarden*, was held, at the time of the Domesday Survey, by Hascoit Musard, who accompanied the Conqueror to England, and was rewarded with considerable possessions in different Counties. It continued in his family till the year 1301, and has since passed through the various houses of De Spencer, Woodstock, Mortimer, Kingston, and Jerningham, to the *Sandys*, who have been in possession since the year 1608.

"The *Church*, dedicated to St. Andrew, consists of a nave, chancel, and two cross aisles, of modern structure, with a low, embattled tower at the west end. A Chapel, on the south side of the chancel, appropriated to the family of SANDYS, is decorated with various military trophies and insignia, and contains a costly and magnificent marble tomb, with the recumbent effigies of SIR WILLIAM SANDYS, and his Lady, in alabaster; their heads supported by a cushion, and their feet resting on their separate crests, (a griffin and falcon :) the former is in complete armour; the latter in the most courtly and fashionable dress of the times. The sculpture is very accurately copied from two paintings of Sir
William

* In the Bodleian Library, Oxon.

† History of Gloucestershire, Vol. I. p. 347.

William Sandys and his Lady, by Cornelius Jansen, which were sent to Italy for that purpose; and even the nicest parts of the female dress are exquisitely finished: on the sides of the tomb, decorated with escutcheons of arms, are the kneeling figures of their ten children. This superb monument cost 1000*l.* and is still in the highest state of preservation.* Sir William died in 1640; his Lady about four years afterwards. On another tomb, in the chancel, is the effigies of WILLIAM KINGSTON, Esq. in armour, with his head lying on a cushion: he died in 1614.

Few places can boast of more natural advantages than MISERDEN PARK, "which is seven miles in circumference, uneven in surface, clothed with fine beech wood, and exhibiting many picturesque, sequestered, and romantic scenes. In the middle of a deep valley, which the park incloses, now overgrown with trees, and devoted to solitude, is a circular mound, surrounded by a moat, on which stood an ancient *Castle*, founded by Ralph Musard, who was Sheriff of this county from 17th John to 9th Henry III. and great-grandson to the original proprietor. The *Manorial-House*, situated on an eminence in the park, has the appearance of antiquity, and is reported to have been built with the materials of the old *Castle*; but the period at which the one was destroyed, and the other rose from its ruins, cannot now be accurately ascertained. The rooms are capacious, but have suffered greatly from neglect. They contain a number of portraits of the Sandys family, of antiquity and merit."† This mansion was for a short time garrisoned for the Parliament by 300 men during the Civil Wars.

ELKSTONE *Church*, dedicated to St. John the Evangelist, is "one of the most ancient buildings in the county of Gloucester; though its external appearance does not promise so much, it having been considerably altered, especially in the reign of Richard
the

* Bigland, Vol. II. p. 224.

† Bigland's Gloucestershire, Vol. II. p. 223. All the portraits are particularly described by this author.

the Second, when the tower was built. Indeed, little of its original architecture remains on the outside, except a fascia running round the upper part of the nave, below which are a variety of grotesque heads and figures, and a round-headed window at the east end of the chancel, ornamented with an embattled fret. The south door is a rich specimen of ancient architecture. Over it is the figure of Our Saviour, sitting on a throne, with his right-hand extended, and holding a book in his left: over his head is the figure of a hand pointing downwards; and round him are the Holy Lamb, and symbols of the Evangelists, all carved in basso-relievo. This group of figures is surrounded by a semicircular arch, and grotesque heads, and ziz-zag mouldings, which are very similar to those round the south door of Siddington Church.* The inside of the chancel is the only (interior) part now remaining in its original state. The appearance of this chancel is very singular; the arches not being correctly circular, but exhibiting great irregularity, part of which, no doubt, has been occasioned by its decay: the columns and pilasters supporting the arches, lean outwards several inches beyond the perpendicular. The roof is not more than twelve feet in height, though on the outside it appears much higher than the nave.†”

At COMBEND, but within the parish of Colesbourne, about a mile from the Roman road, the foundations of a *Roman Building* were discovered in the year 1779; in which was a room fifty-six feet in length, and fourteen in breadth: the remains of another Building were also discovered in the same place, in 1787, consisting of six rooms in a parallel direction, some of which had Tesselated Pavements, and a Hypocaust. Among the ruins were found tiles of a rhomboidal form, in which were iron pins that had fastened them; also fragments of glass, columns, and other vestiges of a *Roman Villa*.‡

The

* See p. 623.

† Lysons's Gloucestershire Antiquities, p. 4. In that work is a general view of Elkstone Church, and separate engravings of the south door and the chancel.

‡ Bigland's Gloucestershire, Vol. I. p. 409. Archæologia, Vol. IX.

The manor of COBERLEY, now the property of Lord Chedworth, belonged to the *Berkeleys* from the time of the Conquest till the reign of Edward the Third. SIR THOMAS DE BERKELEY is supposed to have rebuilt the *Church* about the year 1330: his sepulchral effigy still remains in a niche in the south aisle, and his arms are carved upon the buttresses, and repeated in the windows of the nave. Other specimens of monumental sculpture are also preserved here: among them are a *Croisader*, and a lady in the habit of the fourteenth century; and against the north wall, under a small arcade, is a half-length, in alto-relievo, of a knight in mail armour, supporting two escutcheons.

BRIMPSFIELD, with other manors, was given, by the Conqueror, to Osborne Giffard, a brave Norman soldier, who attended him to England, and whose family retained possession till the reign of Edward the Second, when his descendant, John Giffard, a determined enemy of the Spencers, was attainted of treason, and his *Castle* at Brimpsfield razed to its foundations, by a detachment from the army of the King, who was then on his march from Cirencester to Worcester. The site of the *Castle* is pointed out by a moat, and rampart covered with a close thicket, and surrounding an area, about 300 yards in circumference. Edward the Third granted the manor to Sir Maurice Berkeley, in the year 1340: it has since passed through several noble families, but is now the property of John Pitt, Esq. of Cirencester. The park, inclosing about 200 acres, is occupied as a farm. In this parish was a *PRIORY*, or *Cell* of Benedictines, belonging to the Abbey of St. Stephen de Fountenoy, in Normandy.

BIRDLIP HILL is celebrated among travellers for the extent and beauty of the prospect displayed beneath. Here, from the summit of an immense declivity, the fertile Vale of Gloucester lies expanded to the view; rich with woods, and gay with villages, seats, and pastures. The back-ground is formed by "the blue mountains of Malvern, which relieve the flatness of the other parts, and give a sublimely beautiful effect to the whole." The most striking feature in the landscape, perhaps, because the most singular, is the Roman Road, which leads from the base of the hill

to Gloucester, in an uninterrupted right line, nearly six miles in length.

WHITCOMBE PARK, the seat of Sir William Hicks, Bart. extends itself at the base of some commanding eminences, clothed with beech-wood. The scenery is extremely fine; and from some points is opened a grand and interesting view over the Vale of Gloucester, bounded by the Malvern Hills in Herefordshire.

CHURCHDOWN *Church* is singularly situated on the summit of an eminence of an oval shape, rising from the Vale of Gloucester to the height of about 850 yards: the circumference of the base of the hill is nearly four miles. In this parish was born the famous Greek professor, JOHN HARMER, whom Wood allows to have possessed extraordinary learning, though he speaks contemptuously of his principles: he died in 1670, at the age of 75.

LECKHAMPTON is a parish containing about 1200 acres of very irregular ground; part of it being a rich pasture, and the remainder a mountainous tract, including some of the boldest and most lofty of the Cotswold Hills: "They are broken more precipitously," observes Bigland, "and exhibit a greater extent of bare rock of granulated stone, than any other." One of these scars, from its craggy and gigantic form, is called the *Devil's Chimney*. "Near the precipice, on a very grand terrace, are vestiges of a vallation or deep trench across the point, which, as the sides were defended by nature, must, in the rude state of war, have been an impregnable fastness."* Adam le Despencer, who held Leckhampton in the time of Henry the Third, had the grant of a market, and liberty of free warren, from that Sovereign; and those privileges were confirmed to the manor by Edward the First, and King James. In the reign of Edward the Second, or Third, it passed to a younger branch of the Giffards of Brimpsfield; but in 1486, became the property of John Norwood, of a very ancient family in Kent. His lineal descendants continued owners till the year 1797, when Henry Norwood, Esq. bequeathed it to Charles Brandon Trye, Esq. a collateral descendant by the female line,

* Bigland's Gloucestershire, Vol. II. p. 148.

line, and now proprietor. The *Manor*, or *Court-House*, though situated at the base of the Leckhampton Hills, commands a fine view over the Vale of Gloucester. It occupies three sides of a quadrangle: from the form of the hall windows, and the twisted columnar chimneys, it is supposed to have been originally built in the reign of Henry the Seventh; but the interior has been modernized; and some considerable additions were made at the beginning of the last century. In the *Church*, under an arch between the nave and aisles, are the effigies of a knight cross-legged, and his lady: the former is supposed to represent SIR JOHN GIFFARD, who died seized of the manor in the third of Edward the Third.*

CHELTENHAM,

A TOWN more celebrated for the salubrity of its medicinal water, than any other circumstance, is supposed to have derived its name from the river *Chilt*, which flows past it on the south side, in its passage to the Severn at Wainlode. In the time of Edward the Confessor, the manor was part of the demesne lands of the Crown, but subjected to a yearly payment of 9l. 5s. and 3000 loaves for the King's dogs; "it now," says the Domesday Book, "pays 20l. and twenty cows, and twenty hogs, and 16s. instead of the bread." In the reign of Henry the Third, it belonged to William Long-Espee, Earl of Salisbury, who leased the tolls of the market, fairs, &c. to the inhabitants. On the extinction of his family, it reverted to the Crown, and was granted to Queen Eleanor; but afterwards by exchange of lands, became the property of the Priory of Montburi Fischamp, in Normandy. On the seizure of the Alien Priors, Henry the Fifth granted this manor to the nuns of Sion, in Middlesex, who appear to have leased it to the *Berkeleys*. From the Dissolution till the time of Charles the First, it continued in the Crown; but in the year 1628, was finely alienated to John Dutton, Esq. of Sherborne,

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ancestor

* Engravings of this monument, and of Leckhampton Court-House, are inserted in Lysons's Gloucestershire Antiquities.

ancestor to the present Lord Sherborne, who is now owner; but under whom some small estates are held by copyhold tenure. By the custom of the manor, confirmed by Act of Parliament, lands descend as by common law; but the eldest female inherits solely.

The situation of Cheltenham is extremely pleasant: on the south and west, it is open to the Vale; but on the north-east, it is sheltered by the immense amphitheatre formed by the Cotswold Hills, which abruptly terminate about the distance of two miles to the north. The houses are principally ranged in one street, nearly a mile in length, and in some parts particularly spacious. Since the commencement of the last century, when the sanative qualities of the springs were first noticed, the buildings have progressively improved, both in appearance and number, and particularly within the last ten years. Many neat mansions have also been erected in the vicinity, the principal of which is BAYS HILL LODGE, an elegant building, erected for the late Earl of Fauconberg, in the year 1781; and distinguished as the residence of their present Majesties during their visit to Cheltenham in the summer of 1788.

The *Spring*, or *Spa*, as it is called by way of distinction, was first noticed to possess medicinal properties in the year 1716: the discovery of its qualities appears to have arisen from accident, but the immediate cause is uncertain. It rises about six feet below the surface of a meadow, about half a mile from the town on the south; and according to the experiments of Dr. Short, the water is "a neutral, purgative, chalybeate." It continued open till about two years after its discovery, but was then railed in; and in 1721, was let by the then owner, Mr. Mason, for the sum of 61*l.* per annum. In 1738, it became the property of Captain H. Skillicorne, in right of his wife, the daughter of Mr. Mason: this gentleman erected a brick pavilion, or dome, on four arches, over the well; formed several contiguous walks; and built a commodious room for the reception of the company. About the same time the avenue of lime trees, leading through the Churchyard, was planted. Several similar improvements have been since made, and the grand walk, leading to the pump-yard, and fringed

with

with elms, is nearly 200 yards in length. The good effects produced by this spring, has proved an increasing source of wealth to the town; and its visitors have been so numerous, that it was feared the waters would be insufficient to supply the demand; and this would certainly have been the case, but for the discovery of some new springs equally congenial to health as the former. The last spring discovered, was in 1803, by Dr. Thomas Jameson, who has described the water as somewhat resembling that at Harrowgate, and containing a rather greater proportion of sulphurous gas than the other wells: this spring yields seventy gallons an hour:* a temporary building has been erected over it for the accommodation of the drinkers. The amusements of Cheltenham are similar to those of most other places of public resort: the season is from May to the end of November. The *Assembly Rooms* are spacious and handsome; and a new and elegant *Theatre* has been just completed on an enlarged plan, under the direction of the manager, Mr. Watson. The hotel, and principal lodging houses, are handsomely and conveniently fitted up.

Near the centre of the town, on the south side, stands the *Church*, a spacious, and not inelegant fabric, dedicated to St. Mary, and for the most part of the architecture of the middle ages. It consists of a nave, chancel, side aisles, and transept, with a square tower rising from the intersection, and terminated by a lofty octagonal spire. In the north transept is a beautiful circular window, fifteen feet in diameter; divided into thirty-three compartments by singular ramifications. The east window, in the pointed form, is also large and handsome. The symmetry of the interior is broken by the many galleries which it has been expedient to erect for the convenience of the congregation; part of the ancient rood-loft is yet preserved, and in the chancel is a very curious *Piscina*. Near the Church is an ancient *Stone Cross*, consisting of a single shaft, rising from the centre of a flight of steps: the *Church-Yard* is extensive; the walks are shaded with double rows of limes. An *Hospital* for six poor men and women,

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and

* Monthly Magazine, October, 1804.

and a *Free School*, were founded here in the year 1574, by Richard Pate, Esq. who represented the city of Gloucester in five Parliaments: the endowments were increased by Queen Elizabeth, who is in consequence styled the foundress: by a subsequent benefaction, two scholars, educated at the Free School, are sent to Pembroke College, Oxford. Some other *Schools* are also established in this town; and a peculiar charity was instituted, about the year 1800, called the *Cheltenham Repository*, "for the reception and sale of works of ingenuity and industry, for the benefit of the sick and industrious poor:" this establishment originated with the fair sex, and is principally managed by a committee of females. A *Priory*, but of which no particulars can be depended on, is mentioned to have been founded here in the year 803. The population of this parish in 1801, was enumerated at 3074; the number of houses at 710.

SOUTHAM HOUSE, about two miles from Cheltenham, in the parish of Bishop's Cleeve, is a venerable and far-famed mansion, now the property of Thomas Bagshott de la Bere, Esq. whose father, William Bagshott, Esq. of Prestbury, assumed the name de la Bere in pursuance of the will of his uncle, Kynard de la Bere, Esq. who dying without issue in the year 1735, bequeathed to him this estate. The accurate Leland mentions this house as recently built by Sir John Huddleston, at the time when he made his survey by command of Henry the Eighth; and it yet retains as much, or more, perhaps, of its original form,* as any other domestic building in England, of that era. It is constructed with two stories only, without a parapet: the three principal apartments appear to have been internally finished as they

* From the vicissitudes of property, the fragility of construction, or the caprice of individual possessors, some of the most remarkable of the castellated houses in England, and those most noticed by antiquaries, are now sought for in vain. A well imitated revival of the private residences of our ancestors is uncommon, although not unfrequently attempted. Those, indeed, of the time of the first James have, in some instances, survived the desertion or change of their owners; but one of the age of the Tudors is now very rarely to be seen but as a ruin,

they still remain, when the house was built by Sir John Huddleston, as the ceilings are all of oak frames, *fretted*, in allusion to his coat-armour. This conjecture is confirmed by the arms of Henry the Seventh being so frequently repeated; the cognizances of York having been every where industriously suppressed to make room for the rose of Lancaster. One of the Halls is partly paved with glazed or painted tiles, brought from Hayles Abbey, and displaying various cyphers and armorial ensigns: these, with some rich painted glass, and a carved chimney-piece, charged with shields of arms, brought from the same place, afford a curious specimen of the internal ornaments of conventual houses, at a period immediately preceding their final dissolution.

In this mansion also, are some interesting portraits* of the De la Bere family, as well as of other personages, to whom they were collaterally related. Among these, are two curious paintings of EDWARD THE SIXTH, on pannel, conjecturally by Holbein, but not equal to those by the same artist, at Kensington and Petworth: one is a half length, taken when very young; the other, a whole length, when older: SIR THOMAS OVERBURY, half length, on pannel, by Cornelius Jansen: GILES PALMER, Esq. of Lemington, Warwickshire, maternal grandfather to the former: WILLIAM PALMER, one of the Gentlemen Pensioners to Henry the Eighth, and Porter of Calais; probably by Andrew Wilson: SIR JOHN HALES, of the White Friars, in Coventry: DOROTHY, his second daughter, (see Granger,) wife of Michael Rutter, Esq. of Queinton, in this county: JOAN, another daughter of Sir John Hales: JOHN DE LA BERE, her son: MARY, eldest sister to

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Joan

* The partiality of our ancestors to portrait painting, confined the talents of the most eminent foreign artists, who were established in England. Holbein, Rubens, Vandyck, and Lely, have furnished the houses of our best families with representations of individuals, instead of historical compositions. Yet these are certainly as interesting as the endless repetition of Madonas and Saints, on which the pencils of the great Italian masters were almost invariably employed, to the exclusion of classical subjects. Within these few years, a respect for old portraits has been greatly revived; a change, perhaps, produced, in a considerable degree, by the research of Lord Orford and Mr. Pennant, who preserved many illustrious resemblances from neglect and oblivion.

Joan and Dorothy: the four last by Sir Peter Lely. Another portrait, preserved here, represents an half length of a Lady, "remarkably fair, with bright auburn hair, contemplating a book, an urn on the table; her dress crimson satin, sleeves slashed, and puffed with white; to the necklace of gold, the medallion of a man is dependent." This painting has been supposed to represent JANE SHORE, from a certain degree of resemblance which it bears to the descriptions of that celebrated female, given by Sir Thomas More, and Drayton.* The pleasure afforded by the sight of these portraits, is the more complete from the (almost) certainty of their being original; and, of course, of their probable resemblance to the persons whose names they bear. "There is sufficient ground of conjecture," it is observed in Bigland's Collections, "through what families these portraits have passed, before they found an assemblage at Southam. Those of Edward the Sixth, and Jane Shore, were probably the property of Sir John Huddleston, the founder of the house, whose wife, Jane Seymour, was aunt to the Queen of that name. Those of the Palmers, Sir Thomas Overbury, and the Rutters, belonged to Sir John Hales, and, with his own portrait, were brought to Southam, in consequence of the marriage of Kinard de la Bere,† and Joan, his

* Sir Thomas More has described her person in these words. "Proper shee was and fayre; nothing in her bodie that you could have changed, unless you could have wished her somewhat higher." Drayton says, "Her stature was meane, her haire of dark yellow, her face round and full, her eye grey; delicate harmony betwixt each part's proportion, and each proportion's colour: her countenance cheerful, and like to her condition." *Heroical Epistles*, 1637. Walpole, in his description of the original portrait at Eton College, uses the following words: "her forehead is remarkably large; her mouth and the rest of the features small; her hair of the admired golden colour: a lock of it, if we may believe tradition, was marvellously beautiful, seeming to be powdered with golden dust, without prejudice to its silken delicacy."

† In Bigland's Gloucestershire, Vol. I. p. 312, is an Engraving of a very curious portrait, described as being in the possession of John de la Bere, Esq. at Cheltenham, of "SIR RICHARD DE LA BERE, Knight Banneret, receiving his cognizance from Edward the Black Prince." This distinguished honor was conferred

his daughter, in 1601." Sir John Huddleston was originally of Melholme Castle, in Cumberland, but was Sheriff of this county in the year 1501. The situation of Southam House is extremely beautiful: in front is an expanded prospect of the Vale, closed by the Malvern Hills; and behind, some finely picturesque woodland scenery, stretching along the base of Cleeve Cliff, which rises to the perpendicular height of 630 feet.

BISHOP'S CLEEVE was originally the residence of a small fraternity of monks, established here about the year 790, in the reign of King Offa; and subjected to the See of Worcester in 888, by Werfrith, Bishop of Wiccia, in consequence of a grant from ALFRED. The manor was afterwards purchased of King John, by the Abbey of Worcester; but again reverting to the See, it was resumed by Elizabeth, and continued in the Crown till the second of James the First: it has since descended, through various families, to William Russel, Esq. and ——— Smith, Esq. its present Lords. The *Church*, dedicated to St. Michael, is a curious and spacious edifice, of the architecture of different periods, from the Saxon or early Norman times, to the last century. It consists of a nave, two south aisles, a north aisle, transept, and chancel, with a tower rising from the centre: the latter was finished in 1700, in place of a spire, which fell upon the chancel in the year 1696. The arches supporting the tower are pointed; but those of the nave are semicircular, and sustained on massive columns: the arches connecting the aisles with the transept, are ornamented with embattled fret, and zig-zag mouldings; and the south porch, and west door-way, are also charged with zig-zag and other Saxon ornaments. Beneath a low arch, embellished with portions of quatrefoils, at the south end of the transept, is
the

conferred on Sir Richard from his having rescued the Prince from imminent danger in the Battle of Cressy, 1346; and it has been a received tradition, that the painting is nearly of equal antiquity. It is in oil, and of course, strongly controverts the opinion of oil-painting having been invented by John Ab Eyck, in the year 1400. The portrait was "certainly done soon after the introduction of painting in oil into England;" and as Sir Richard died about 1382, it must have been executed prior to the pretended invention by Ab Eyck.

the effigies of a *Croisader*; and in one of the aisles is an ancient recumbent figure of a nun, said to have been brought from Southam. In the same aisle, also, is a sumptuous mural and altar monument, to the memory of RICHARD DE LA BERE, Esq. of Southam, and his LADY; the effigies of the former is displayed in a Serjeant's habit; the latter, in the dress of the times. Sir Richard died in the year 1635. The chancel has been lately fitted up in a very handsome manner. The *Rectory House* is an ancient and spacious building, and was originally a residence of the Bishops of Worcester. On the ridge of hills in this parish, called *Cleeve Clouds*, are many vestiges of military transactions: and the extremity of the ridge is fortified by a deep vallation, extending 350 yards, in the form of a crescent, and inaccessible on every side but the front.*

The celebrated eastern traveller, JOHN CARTWRIGHT, is supposed, by Wood,† to have descended from the Cartwrights of Great Washbourn. His Treatises were published in one volume quarto, in the year 1611.

At BECKFORD was a PRIORY of *Austin Canons*, founded in the reign of Henry the Third, by Robert Fitz-Hamon, as a Cell to the Abbey of St. Martin, and St. Barbara, in Normandy. The manor is now the property of the *Wakemans*, whose seat, an ancient and venerable mansion, has been the family residence for nearly two centuries. The *Church*, dedicated to St. John Baptist, is a very old building, consisting only of a nave, chancel, and tower: the latter was erected in place of the ancient spire, which having become ruinous, was taken down in 1622.

On an eminence called TOWBERRY HILL, rising from the meadows near the river Severn, in the parish of TWINING, is an ancient *Camp*, doubly entrenched, in the form of an irregular oblong square: the north and west sides are well defended by a precipitous declivity. "Peradventure," says Leland, "it was King Offa, or King Ranulphus' house."

TEWKESBURY

* Rudge's Gloucestershire, Vol. I. p. 90.

† Athen. Oxon. Vol. I. p. 378.

TEWKESBURY

Is a large and respectable town, situated in the Vale of Evesham, on the eastern banks of the *soft flowing Avon*, near its confluence with the river Severn, and between the streams called the Carron, and the Swilgate, which flow into the Avon; the one above Tewkesbury, and the other a short distance below it. The name of Tewkesbury is of uncertain etymology: tradition has uniformly deduced it from Theocus, a recluse, who fixed his residence on the banks of the Severn, near this place, about the end of the seventh century. The Saxon inscription discovered in the Church at Leominster, and printed by Weever in his *Funeral Monuments*, calls it DEOTISEYRG, or *Theot-is-byrg*; the Town belonging to Theot; the latter word being supposed a contraction for Theocus. William of Malmsbury derives Tewkesbury from the Greek word *Theotocos*, signifying the Mother of God; merely on the grounds of the Abbey having been dedicated to the Virgin Mary; though the probability is, that the town had existence long prior to that foundation. Baxter supposes Tewkesbury to be the ETOCESSA of the Romans, latinized by them from the British *Etoc isceu*, faux aquarum; and afterwards changed, by the Saxons, into *Theoesbyrig*, or the Town of ETOCESSA. In the Domesday Book it is called *Teodechesberie*.

The first Lords of this Manor, whose names appear on record, are the noble Saxon brothers, Dodo and Odo, reputed to have been Dukes of Mercia, and to have founded an ABBEY here in the year 715; or rather to have converted a *Palace* of Dodo's into a monastic establishment, if the following inscription, inserted by Camden, has not been erroneously referred to Tewkesbury:

HANC AULAM REGIAM DODO DUX CONSECRARI FECIT IN ECCLESIAM.*

Dodo, and his brother, dying in the year 725, were buried at Pershore, in Worcestershire. In 800, Hugh, a nobleman of Mercia, occurs as Patron of the Abbey; and by his influence,
Brictric,

* Duke Dodo caused this Royal Palace to be converted into a Church. The Register of Tewkesbury Abbey, as quoted in the Monasticon, has referred this inscription to the Duke's House at *Derehurst*.

Briteric, King of the West Saxons, was buried there, as he himself was in 812. From this period till 980, the Abbey is little noticed by historians: it was then subjected to the Abbey founded at Cranborne, in Dorsetshire, by Haylward, the Fair, or Snow-like, so called from his complexion. His grandson, Brihtric, Brictric, or Bithric,* whose ruin was effected by Matilda, wife to the Conqueror, in revenge for slighted passion, was afterwards patron; but after the seizure of his estates, Tewkesbury became the property of the Queen, as part of the Honor of Gloucester. On her death it reverted to the Crown; but was granted, by William Rufus, to Robert Fitz-Hamon, who, in the year 1102, rebuilt the whole, or the greater part, of the Church and Monastery, at the request of his wife Sybil, and Girald, Abbot of Cranborne, who, with his monks, soon afterwards removed to Tewkesbury; Fitz-Hamon having so greatly increased the Abbey possessions, that he was considered as the second founder. "It cannot," says William of Malmsbury, "be easily reported, how highly he exalted this monastery, wherein the beauty of the buildings ravished the eyes, and the charity of the monks allured the hearts of such folke as used to come thither."

On the death of Fitz-Hamon, in 1107, Mabil, his eldest daughter, was married by Henry the Third to his natural son Robert, whom, on that occasion, he created Earl and Consul of Gloucester.†

By

* See page 629.

† In Robert of Gloucester's Chronicle, are the following curious particulars of the manner of Henry's courting the lady for his son,

Sir, shee saide, ich wote your herte upon mee is,
 More for myne heritage, than for myselfe I wis:
 And such heritage as ich have, hit weer to mee greet shame
 To take a lorde, but he hadde any surname.
 Damoseill, quoth the Kyng, thou seest well in this case,
 Sir Robert Fitz-Hayme, thi fader's name was:
 As fayre a name he shall have, as you may see,
 Sir Robert le Fitz-Roy shall his name be;
 Damoseill, he say'd, thi lorde shall have a name,
 For him and for his heires fayre without blame:
 For Robert, erle of Gloucester, his name shall be, and is;
 He shall be erle of Gloucester, and his heires I wis:—
 Inne this forme, quoth shee, ich wote that all my thyng be his,

By this Nobleman the Abbot and twelve monks of Tewkesbury were invited to his table every Sunday. He also founded the Priory of St. James, in Bristol, and subjected it to this Abbey. William, his son and heir, confirmed all the grants made by his ancestors, and also increased the possessions of the monks by further grants. Isabel, his youngest daughter, succeeding to the Earldom of Gloucester, and Lordship of Tewkesbury, was given in marriage, by Richard the First, to his brother John, Earl of Cornwall, and afterwards King of England. On his accession to the Crown, in the year 1199, he divorced Isabel for barrenness; but retained her estates till 1215, when he resigned them to Geoffrey de Mandeville, Earl of Essex, who had married the discarded Queen. After the death of Geoffrey, who was killed at a tournament in the following year, Isabel was again married, to Hugh de Burgh, Chief Justice of England; but dying without issue, the Honor of Gloucester descended to her nephew, Almeric de Montfort, who also dying without issue, was succeeded by Gilbert de Clare, son and heir of the Earl of Hertford, who had married Amice, second daughter of the above Earl William. Gilbert is said to have lived at *Holme Castle*, the supposed manorial residence, at the south-west end of Tewkesbury, but of which there are not any remains; and even in Leland's time the site was only distinguished by "sum ruines of the bottoms of waulles."

Gilbert de Clare, third and last Earl of Gloucester of that name, was slain at the battle of Banockburn, in the seventh of Edward the Second; leaving three daughters co-heiresses: by Eleanor, the eldest, the Lordship of Tewkesbury, and other estates, passed, in marriage, to Hugh le Despencer, the younger, in whose family it continued till the year 1411, when it was conveyed, by the marriage of the heiress Isabel, to Richard Beauchamp, Lord Abergavenny, and afterwards Earl of Worcester. This nobleman was slain at the siege of Meaux, in 1421. His widow, under a dispensation from the Pope, afterwards married his cousin-german, Richard Beauchamp, fifth Earl of Warwick, whom she also survived; but died within a few months, in 1439. This lady was a great benefactress to the Abbey; as was also her son and successor, Henry, who was crowned King of the Isle of

Wight, by Henry the Sixth, and at the age of nineteen, created Duke of Warwick, and declared premier Earl of England. Anne, his sister and heiress, married Richard Nevil, Earl of Salisbury, afterwards created Earl of Warwick, and since distinguished by the appellation of *King-Maker*, from his conduct during the wars between Edward the Fourth and Henry the Sixth. This Nobleman having fallen in the battle of Barnet, his Countess was compelled to seek safety in flight; and Edward would have seized her estates, had not her daughters, Isabel and Anne, been his sisters-in-law: he, however, divided the inheritance betwixt them; and this division was confirmed by act of Parliament in 1473. The manor of Tewkesbury became a part of the share of Isabel, who married the unfortunate George, Duke of Clarence, and died in child-bed, at Warwick, in 1476. Edward Plantagenet, son of Clarence and Isabel, was imprisoned by Richard the Third; and afterwards beheaded in the Tower by Henry the Seventh, on a charge of conspiracy. His greatest crime, however, consisted in his being heir-male to the House of York. His extensive inheritance was soon afterwards seized by the King, under a forced conveyance from Anne, his grandmother, Countess of Warwick and Salisbury. From this period the Lordship of Tewkesbury continued in the Crown till the year 1547, when Edward the Sixth granted it to Sir Thomas Seymour, on whose attainder it again reverted, and remained annexed to the Crown, till the twenty-second of March, 1609, when James the First sold the Manor and Borough to the Corporation, together with various privileges, for the sum of 2455l. 7s. 4½d.

The earlier periods of the history of Tewkesbury are remarkably barren of interesting events; though, at an after era, it was the scene of one of the most important transactions recorded in the English annals. Some ravages were committed here by the Danes; yet the extent of the spoilation is not particularly noticed; and during the time of the celebrated Robert, Earl of Gloucester, the town was ransacked (anno 1139) by Walleran de Beaumont, and immense riches taken; but the goods of the Abbey were spared.

The dreadful and ruinous effects of the war between the rival houses of York and Lancaster, were severely experienced by the
inhabitants

inhabitants of Tewkesbury and its neighbourhood. Queen Margaret and her son, Prince Edward, previous to the memorable *Tewkesbury fight*, had established their head quarters, or rallying point, at Cerne Abbey in Dorsetshire. There her most faithful adherents assembled; and she appears, in conjunction with them, to have planned a complicated scheme of operations, which greatly embarrassed the movements of King Edward, who was entirely ignorant in what part of the country he might most speedily bring the Queen's forces to battle, and thus frustrate their projected march to London, where he then was. In this interval of suspense, advanced parties were constantly dispatched by the Queen in every direction, to cover her real intention of passing into Cheshire and Lancashire, in order to increase her number; and, if possible, to form a junction with Jasper, Earl of Pembroke, who had been dispatched into Wales to rouse the Queen's friends. Edward, by comparing circumstances, at last begun to understand the Queen's design: he therefore placed himself at the head of his army, and advanced towards his enemies through Windsor, Abingdon, Cirencester,* Bath, and Malmsbury. Here he was informed, that the Lancastrians intended to try the fortune of war in a general battle: but Margaret, in imitation of the wary Fabius, withdrew from his hopes, retreating by Berkeley towards Gloucester, where she had many partizans. This retreat was executed with so much skill and silence, that Edward came upon the ground where the Queen had rested, at Sudbury, before he was aware of her flight. Involved in doubt as to the intention of his enemies, he remained there till three o'clock in the morning after his arrival, when receiving intelligence of the Queen's route, he immediately dispatched a messenger to Richard Beauchamp, Governor of the town and castle of Gloucester, who was in his interest; commanding him to shut the gates against the Queen, and to defend the place till he came to his relief. This order was conveyed with so much celerity, that Beauchamp received it in time to obey the mandate; and the Queen, not chusing to risk the hazard

* Erroneously called *Chichester* by Holinshed.

hazard of investing or storming the town with Edward in the rear of her army, proceeded towards Tewkesbury, where she arrived with her fatigued and fainting troops, after a march of thirty miles through ways almost impassable, intersected by thickets, ditches, and rugged hills. Anxious for the safety of her son, the unfortunate Margaret would have pursued her route across the Severn at all hazards; but the Duke of Somerset, justly estimating the extreme danger of the attempt, strongly opposed it, on the ground that Edward, who was close in pursuit, would fall on their rear, and destroy it without a possibility of prevention: the Queen, therefore, was reduced to the necessity of waiting the arrival of her enemies. The place chosen for the camp in this desperate and forlorn stand, is described by Holinshed to have been "in a close even hard at the towne's end, having the towne and Abbey at their backes; and directlie before them, and upon each side of them, they were defended with cumbersome lanes, deepe ditches, and manie hedges, beside hills and dales, so as the place seemed as noisome as might be to approach unto." It is remarkable, that on the day of their arrival at Tewkesbury, Edward, and his army, were within six miles of the Queen during the whole march; he having taken his route through the open country, and Margaret hers through the woods. The hardships encountered by Edward's soldiers were very great; intolerable heat, insupportable thirst, and hunger, oppressed them together. "They could find neither horse meat, nor man's meat; no, not so much as water for their horses, except one little brooke, of the which they received no great releefe; for what with the horses and carriages that passed through it, the water became so troubled, that it served them to no use."* At Cheltenham, Edward received intelligence of the Queen's arrival at Tewkesbury; and having halted there to refresh his army, he re-commenced the pursuit; and at night encamped in a field about three miles from his enemies.

"On the morrow, being Saturdaie, and fourth of Maie," anno 1471, the decisive and dreadful battle was fought, which terminated

* Holinshed.

nated the contentions for empire, that had so long desolated the kingdom, under the banners of York and Lancaster. Edward prepared for the onset, by placing the Duke of Gloucester in the command of his front, and the Lord Hastings in that of the rear, or reserve of his army; while he, himself, led the centre. The Queen's forces were also disposed into three divisions: the van commanded by the Duke of Somerset, and his brother, Lord John of Somerset; the centre by the Prince, under the conduct of the Lord of St. John's, and Baron Wenlock; and the rear by the Earl of Devonshire. The position of the Queen's lines were so completely covered by the natural advantages of situation, that the King found it impossible to advance: he therefore had recourse to his artillery, with which he commenced a heavy fire, supported by a shower of arrows from the division under the Duke of Gloucester. This discharge was returned by the Queen's forces, who, however, being possessed but of few cannon, suffered in a greater proportion than the assailants. Thus circumstanced, the armies might have long contended, had not the Duke of Gloucester made a feint of retreating, which allured the Duke of Somerset from his post, and he advanced with more courage than prudence in pursuit. Having descended the hill into Glaston-meadow, where the King's forces were stationed, he perceived himself unsupported by his colleagues, who, either through mistake or disaffection, had neglected to advance. Edward, or, the "politike Duke of Gloucester," taking advantage of this incident, attacked Somerset with the utmost vigor, and obliged his forces to retreat towards the hill, where they were met by a reserve of the King's troops; and by this combined attack were defeated, and dispersed in every direction, with considerable loss in killed and prisoners. The Duke of Somerset having reached the line in personal safety, is said to have stigmatized the Lord Wenlock with the name of Traitor; and, fired with resentment and ungovernable rage, "with his ax he stroke the brains out of his head."

Edward and the Duke of Gloucester, profiting by Somerset's defeat, and the confusion occasioned by this rash conduct, entered the Queen's lines with the fugitives, and soon completed the vic-

tory by the destruction, or utter dispersion, of the divisions commanded by the Earl of Devonshire, and Lord Wenlock. Many were drowned at a mill-dam near the field of battle; some fled to the Church and Abbey; and others into the town: among the latter was the ill-fated Prince Edward, whose flight was intercepted by Sir Richard Crofts. This "faire and well-proportioned young gentleman," as Holinshed terms him, lost his life through the credulity of Crofts, who, tempted by the reward held forth in a proclamation issued by the King, of an annuity of 100l. and a promise of *sparing the Prince's life*, resigned him to the Monarch's keeping. Edward, flushed with victory, imperiously demanded of the Prince, how he "durst so presumtuously enter into his realms with banner displaid?" The Prince, kindling with the martial spirit of his race, undauntedly answered, "To recover my father's kingdom and heritage, from his father and grandfather to him, and from him, after him, to me lineally descended." Edward made no reply to this imprudent retort; but is said either to have pushed the Prince from him, or to have struck him with his gauntlet. This act was received as a signal for vengeance by the Dukes of Clarence and Gloucester, Grey, Marquis of Dorset, and William, Lord Hastings, who are recorded to have murdered the Prince instantly with their own hands: though Rapin doubts their having themselves perpetrated the horrid deed, but admits the probability of its having been done in their presence.*

Our historians vary in their accounts of the finding of Queen Margaret subsequent to the battle: Holinshed says she was discovered in an inconsiderable monastery, near Worcester, to which she had retired for safety; and Hall declares that she was found in a chariot, faint with terror and grief, and in utter ignorance of the fate of her son. Whatever was her situation, every feeling heart must bleed at the bare recollection of the accumulation of horrors she must have experienced at such a moment: that she was captured, and carried prisoner to London, is certain.

In

* The Prince of Wales is said to have been murdered in the house now occupied by Mr. Thomas Brown, Mercer.—*Dyde's Tewkesbury*, p. 165.

In this battle, so fatal to the house of Lancaster, the Lord John of Somerset, the Earl of Devonshire, Sir John Delves, Sir Edward Hampden, Sir Robert Whittingham, Sir John Leukener, and many other considerable personages, lost their lives; together with 3000 soldiers, whose bodies were permitted, by the King, to be buried in and near the Church of Tewkesbury, or wherever else their friends pleased. The fugitives made prisoners in the town and Abbey, of most importance, were the Duke of Somerset, the Prior of St. John of Jerusalem, Sir Thomas Tresham, and Sir Gervais Clifton. These, with various other Knights and Esquires, were arraigned in the midst of the town, before the Duke of Gloucester and the Duke of Norfolk, (the former sitting in the capacity of High Constable of England, and the latter as Earl Marshal,) and condemned to the death of traitors. In pursuance of this sentence, the above persons were beheaded on the following Tuesday; but the horrid ceremony of quartering the bodies, and placing them on conspicuous eminences, was omitted by Edward's order. Some others of inferior note, who had fled to the Abbey Church for sanctuary, were pardoned by the King, when he visited the church to give thanks for his victory. "The local memorials of this very decisive battle," it has been observed by Mr. Dyde, "are but few. The principal scenes of the action are the meadow, which has received the appellation of Bloody Meadow, and the vine-yard. The former lies between two gently descending banks, about half a mile south-west of the town, and was the spot where the slaughter was the greatest. The latter was the place where Queen Margaret lay, and where some intrenchments are still to be traced."—

Ill was her choise of this vneven ground;
 Luckless the place, vn lucky was the howre;
 The Heauens vpon her so extremely fround,
 As one her head their plagues at once to powre:
 As in a deluge here her hopes were drown'd,
 Here sees she death her faithfull friends deuoure;
 The earth is fill'd with grones, the ayre with cries;
 Horror on each side doth enclose her eyes.

Never did death so terrible appeare,
 Since first their armes the *English* learnt to wield;
 Who would see slaughter, might beholde it heere
 In the true shape vpon this fatal field:
 In vain was valour, and in vaine was feare,
 In vain to fight, in vaine it was to yeeld,
 In vain to fly; for destiny discust,
 By their owne hands, or others, dye they must.

DRAYTON'S MISERIES OF QUEEN MARGARITE.

From this period, no events of particular historical importance occurred at Tewkesbury, till the Civil War in the reign of Charles the First. Before the siege of Gloucester, this town was garrisoned for the King; but after the surrender of the Welsh forces, it was evacuated in less than twelve hours, and taken possession of by a part of the Parliament's army under Captain Fiennes. It once more fell into the hands of the Royalists; and the town was afterwards fortified, which rendered it rather a troublesome neighbour to Governor Massie, who resolved, in 1644, to attempt its reduction; and on the fifth of June, he detached 120 horse, thirty dragoons, and 300 foot, for this purpose. When the party had advanced within a mile of the place, a forlorn hope was formed to reconnoitre; and finding the bridge down, the King's troops without intelligence, and but a slender guard, they surprised and made themselves masters of the bridge without firing a gun; a body of dragoons rushing forward, actually reached the main guard before the alarm was spread: then overturning the garrison's ordnance, charged through the streets, taking Major Myn, Governor of the town, prisoner. This rapid movement occasioned an universal panic, and the troops threw down their arms, and fled. One stand only was made by the rallying of the main guard; but the arrival of Colonel Massie prevented further opposition; and by midnight that officer found himself in complete possession of the place.

Whatever might have been the origin of Tewkesbury, there can be little doubt of its chief importance having arisen from the foundation of the Abbey, and the munificence of the noble families who successively possessed the manor. In the Domesday Book, the principal items belonging to the borough are as follows. "In

Teodeschesberie

Teodeschesberie were four score and fifteen hides in the time of King Edward; of these forty-five were in demesne, and free from all royal service and tax, except the service due to the Lord of the Manor: the manor was *in capite*. In all Teodeschesberie, there are 120 acres of meadow, and a wood one mile and a half long, and as much broad. There are now thirteen burgesses at Teodeschesberie, paying twenty *sol* a year. A market established by the Queen pays eleven *sol* and eight *den*: and there is one plough tillage more and twenty-two between the *servi* and *ancillæ*, and a salt pit at Wich," &c. The tolls of the market were afterwards given by King John, in perpetuity, to keep in repair the *Long Bridge*, which he had built over the Avon at the north end of the town.

The ABBEY of Tewkesbury, as already related, was founded in the Saxon times, and advanced in consequence under the protection of the various proprietors of the lordship, whose munificence rendered it one of the richest foundations in the kingdom. Even as early as the reign of King John, it had attained considerable importance, as appears from the circumstance of its possessing one of the seven copies of the charters called *Magna Charta*, and *Charta de Foresta*, granted by that Monarch in 1215. Whether it was strictly peeral, or not, is contested: its Abbots, however, were occasionally summoned to Parliament, though they might not possess the privilege of sitting by prescriptive right. The last Abbot, John Wych, or Wakeman, surrendered its possessions in the year 1539; and for his ready compliance was, in 1541, rewarded with the Bishopric of Gloucester. The revenues were estimated at 1595l. 17s. 6d. per annum, exclusive of 136l. 8s. 1d. granted by the Convent in fees and annuities: its plate was also very valuable; the sacristy alone containing 1421 ounces.

After the Dissolution, the destruction of the monastic buildings, according to Browne Willis, was most rapid and complete, through the ineffectual opposition of the Monks to the visitors appointed by the King, who, in revenge, destroyed the Lady Chapel, Cloisters, Chapter-House, and other appendages, by fire. The remains

of the buildings were afterwards purchased by the inhabitants; and the ABBEY CHURCH was repaired, and made parochial. This magnificent structure displays an interesting example of early Norman architecture, combined with specimens of other kinds; and is in other respects well calculated to arrest the attention of the historian, particularly from the rich monuments that have been raised over the remains of its patrons, or of the unfortunate nobles that were slain at the battle of Tewkesbury. It is built in the cathedral form, and consists of a nave, choir, transept, and central tower, with the addition of several Chapels, that have been erected at different periods. The nave and choir are separated from the aisles by eighteen massive columns, sustaining the roof, and four substantial piers, which support the tower. The arches above the columns in the nave, and over the piers, are plain, and semicircular; but those of the choir are pointed. Above the crown of the former arches, runs a *triforium*, opening into the nave by a series of double round-headed arches; two over each arch. The roof of the nave is ornamented with groins, springing from crocket-heads over each pillar; and at the intersections are various angels, and other figures, playing on different musical instruments. At the west end is a large window with a pointed arch, which appears to have been introduced within a semicircular arch in 1656. The aisles are lighted with pointed arched windows; these were probably altered to that shape about the beginning of the fourteenth century, when the *Choir* was heightened, and greatly embellished. In 1796, this was again altered, fitted up with new pews, and otherwise improved, at an expence of two thousand pounds. The effect of this portion of the fabric is singularly grand and beautiful. The east end is hexagonal, and is separated from the aisles by six massive short columns, which support pointed arches. Beneath these are some large monuments; and over the arches are windows filled with painted glass,* casting
 “ a dim

* In two of these windows, “ are very curious figures of Knights in armour. They are eight in number, and are represented standing under very rich gothic canopies, each nearly filling one of the principal compartments of the window; some

"a dim religious light" into this part of the structure. On the south side of the altar are three stone stalls; only two of which are visible, the third being concealed by some ornaments. The upper parts are mutilated; but the remainder displays some elegant carving. The ceiling is adorned with a profusion of tracery, and at each intersection is a carved flower, or knot of foliage. Branching out from the north and south aisles of the choir, are five or six small private Chapels, or Oratories, containing the tombs and ashes of their respective founders. The Lady Chapel, which, as was customary, stood at the east end, is entirely destroyed; but a large arch, through which it was entered from the Church, is still seen on the outside.* Caryatide heads, busts, and half lengths, abound as ornaments, and some of them are very highly-finished caricatures. The *Cloisters* were on the south side of the nave, where some fragments of them yet remain; and appear to have been highly ornamented in a similar style to those at Gloucester. The tower is lofty, and, according to the Abbey Chronicles, was once terminated by a wooden spire, which fell on Easter-day, 1559. The most remarkable specimens of its architecture, are three tiers of arcades in the upper part; the arches of the middlemost tier are intersected.

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some are in mail, others in plated armour; and all of them have arms on their surcoats. The upper and smaller compartments of these windows are filled with scrolls of vine branches on a brilliant red ground, disposed in a most elegant taste." According to the best authorities, these figures represent Robert Fitz-Hamon, the second founder of the Abbey; Robert Fitz-roy, Earl of Gloucester; the three Gilberts de Clare, Earls of Gloucester; Richard de Clare, Earl of Gloucester; Hugh le Despencer the younger; and one of the le Zouch family.

Observations, &c. by S. Lysons, Esq. Archaeologia, Vol. XIV. p. 148, 149.

* This is shown in the annexed Print, which represents the east view of the Church. The transept and tower exhibit a considerable portion of the original fabric, erected by Robert Fitz-Hamon: the stone for the former is said to have been brought from Caen, in Normandy: the exterior of some of the Chapels which surround the choir is also displayed. The other view, by *Dayes*, represents the Church as seen from the meadows on the south-west. The great arch at the west end is singularly magnificent: the parapet, and pinnacles above it, together with those on the tower, were added when the pointed arched window was introduced.

The length of the Church is 300 feet; of the transept, 120; the breadth of the choir and side aisles is seventy feet; of the west front, 100: the height from the area to the roof is 120 feet: the height of the tower is 152 feet.

The MONUMENTS in Tewkesbury Church have attracted the attention of various antiquaries, particularly of Mr. Gough, and Mr. S. Lysons; the latter of whom has been at great pains in assigning the different tombs to the real persons they were intended to commemorate; many mistakes, in this respect, having been committed on *traditional* authority by former writers.

Between two of the pillars, on the north side of the choir, is an elegant and light Chapel of stone, erected by Abbot Parker, in 1397, over the tomb of ROBERT FITZ-HAMON, who was slain at Falaize, in Normandy, in 1107, and originally buried in the Chapter House, whence his bones were removed by Abbot Robert in 1241. The tomb is of variegated marble, with five niches on the south side; those on the north have been destroyed; and the sculpture is otherwise much mutilated, and the ornamental brasses taken away. This tomb was opened during the repairs in 1795: at the west end was a large stone, scooped out to receive a sheet of lead, inclosing one arm and two thigh bones; most probably all the remains of the founder that could be collected at the time of their removal. On the east wall of the Chapel may be traced a delineation of a battle.

On the north side of the altar is a monument, of the most delicate sculpture, and beautiful proportions, in four stages of open arched work, with a tomb beneath, surrounded by an embattled border, and the sides ornamented alternately with single and double arches. On the tomb are the effigies of a Knight and his Lady: the former wears a round helmet, a gorget, and hauberk of mail: at his feet is a lion, and under his head a helmet, with a griffin's head for a crest. "The lady has a dog at her feet, and appears in the square head-dress so commonly seen on tombs erected in the reign of Edward the Third." Sir Robert Atkyns, Browne Willis, and the general tradition of the place, have assigned these figures to George, Duke of Clarence, brother to Edward the Fourth,

Fourth, and his Duchess *Isabel*, who were both buried here; "though neither the architectural decorations of the tomb, nor the dresses of the figures, in any respect correspond with those used in the latter part of the fifteenth century, but exactly resemble those of the reign of Edward the Third. Indeed, it appears, from a variety of authorities, that this splendid monument was erected to the memory of HUGH LE DESPENCER,* eldest son of Hugh le Despencer the younger; and his wife, ELIZABETH, daughter of William de Montacute, Earl of Salisbury. He died the 8th of February, 23d Edward III. and she, the 20th of June, 33d Edward III."

This lady was thrice married: her first husband was Giles de Badlesmere; and her last SIR GUY DE BRIAN, whose effigies is also represented on a tomb, under a rich canopy, with similar sculpture to the above. Sir Guy was a brave warrior in the time of Edward the Third, from whom he received an annuity of 200 marks for his services as standard-bearer: he died in 1391.

Another magnificent monument, on the north side, is inclosed by the sepulchral Chapel founded by ISABEL, Countess of Warwick, over the remains of Richard Beauchamp, Earl of Worcester, her first husband, who was slain at the siege of Meaux, in France, in March, 1421. The Countess died in December, 1439, and was also interred here. The upper part of the Chapel is richly ornamented by arches, canopies, and finials; but only two of six blue marble pillars remain which supported it: the roof, more perfect, is entirely composed of beautiful tracery, spread over the arches and pendants; and six niches, in two rows, of three each, bound the screen. The buttresses on the sides of the tomb, form seven divisions, with double canopies, for angels beneath, bearing shields of the several quarterings of the family of the deceased Countess.

* Mr. Carter having cleaned this figure preparatory to making a drawing of it, discovered on the tabard, the arms of Despencer, which Mr. Brooke, Somerset Herald, assigned to Thomas Despencer, Earl of Gloucester, who was beheaded by a mob at Bristol, in the year 1400, for being concerned in a conspiracy against Henry the Fourth, at Windsor: this conclusion was erroneous, as appears from the text.

Countess. This lady, quite fanatical in humility, ordered that her effigies should be carved entirely naked, with the hair represented as put behind the head, and thus placed on the tomb, with "Mary Magdalen laying her hands across, with St. John the Evangelist on the right side, and St. Anthony on the left." According to the Chronicles of the Abbey, this part of her will was literally obeyed; but the figures must have been long removed, as they are not noticed by subsequent historians.

A surcoat of arms, long obscured, authenticates another effigy, denominated, by the Saxons, the 'King-making Earl of Warwick,' to be that of EDMUND, Baron Despencer, a hero in the field of Poitiers, who died in the year 1375. Every part is yet perfect, excepting the rowels of the spurs, which demonstrate knighthood. It appears small, from being placed above a lofty sepulchral Chapel, and had formerly a rich canopy of tabernacle work.

On the south side of the choir is a Chapel, dedicated to the *Holy Trinity*, "erected by Elizabeth, the wife of Edward le Despencer, whose figure, kneeling, is placed on the roof, over which was formerly a rich Gothic canopy." The east wall was originally highly ornamented with paintings; representing the Trinity, various subjects from the New Testament, &c. but all of them are now effectually obscured by whitewash: the roof is ornamented with fan-shaped tracery. Elizabeth le Despencer died in the year 1409.

In the south aisle, nearly opposite the above Chapel, "is an altar-tomb, ornamented, on both sides, with quatrefoils and shields, having over it a very flat arch, the vault of which is decorated with rich Gothic tracery." This is traditionally assigned to Abbot Fortington, who died in 1253; but the architectural decorations are unquestionably of a later age; and the cyphers (R. C.) on the shields on each spandril of the arch, and at the intersection of the ribs of the tracery beneath the arch, render it evident, that this monument was designed for Abbot RICHARD CHELTENHAM, who died in 1509. Opposite to the above, "at the back of the stone stalls in the choir, is another tomb of an Abbot,

Abbot, consisting of a stone coffin, placed under a low flat arch, ornamented with a scroll of vine leaves and grapes, over which are two rows of niches, with rich canopies. On the lid of the coffin, which is of hard blue stone, the following inscription is very deeply cut; JOHANNES ABBAS. HVJVS LOCI: this has been, with reason, ascribed to John Cotes, who died anno 1361; there being no other of the name, with the date of whose death the form of the letters, in the above inscription, would agree; though the decorations of the monument appear to be of a later age: it is probable that the coffin has been removed from some other part of the Church:” this coffin was opened in 1795 but no remains of consequence were discovered in it.

In the same aisle, in the south wall, is the tomb of Abbot ALANUS, the friend and biographer of Thomas á Becket, who died in the year 1202. “The body is deposited in a coffin of Purbeck marble, laid under a very plain semi-quatrefoil arch.” This coffin has also been opened: “when the lid was taken off, the body appeared surprisingly perfect, considering it had lain there nearly 600 years: the folds of the drapery were very distinct; but from being exposed to the air, the whole very soon crumbled away, and left little more than a skeleton: the boots, however, still retained their form, and a certain degree of elasticity; they hung in large folds about the legs. On his right side lay a plain crosier of wood, neatly turned, the top of which was gilded, having a cross cut in it: it was five feet, eleven inches, in length, and remarkably light: on his left side was the fragment of a chalice.” Another tomb of an Abbot, between those of Alanus, and Abbot Cheltenham, consisting of a coffin, beneath an arch, richly adorned with foliage, and other ornaments, was opened about the same time, and the body was found nearly in the same state as that of Abbot Alanus, but without a crosier.

In the south aisle of the nave, against the wall, is an ancient monument, said to be that of Edmund Beaufort, Duke of Somerset, beheaded after the battle of Tewkesbury; but the shields of arms on the tomb, which have no relation to Somerset, and the architectural decorations, evince its date to have been earlier.

Mr.

Mr. Lysons conjectures it to have been erected for one of the family of the Clares, Earls of Gloucester; but observes, that the Duke's body might have been interred in the stone coffin placed upon the top, but which formed no part of the original tomb.*

Nearly opposite, in the wall of the north aisle, is a rich flowered surbated arch, with a tomb under it, on which lies the effigies of a Knight, in complete armour; a shield on his left arm, and a lion at his feet: tradition calls it the monument of *Lord Wenlock*; but Leland asserts, that he was buried elsewhere; and the arms on the shield are not those of that ill-fated Nobleman.

At the entrance of the Chapel, dedicated to St. Edward the Martyr, is the *Cenotaph* of Abbot WYCH, or WAKEMAN, who became the first Bishop of Gloucester after the Reformation. "In the lower part is a figure, representing the corpse of a priest, in an emaciated state, lying in a shroud; a subject which frequently occurs on the tombs of ecclesiastics. The canopy is of the latest style of Gothic architecture, being overcharged with a great profusion of arches, quatrefoils, and other ornaments. The Bishop was buried in his Chapel at Forthampton."†

The large blue slab, shown as protecting the remains of the spirited *Prince Edward*, so inhumanly treated by his victorious competitors, retains no indication of its pretensions, its brasses having been removed: indeed, there is no authority for the tale of his having been buried in this spot. "His bodie," says Holinshed, "was homelie interred, with the other simple corpses." The probability, therefore, is, that he was thrown into one common grave with the other victims of the battle.

Many other monuments, and sepulchral inscriptions, appear in this Church, where numerous personages of distinction, besides those already recorded, moulder into "indistinguishable dust." One of them, by Flaxman, to the memory of the Lady ANN CLARKE, wife of Sir S. Clarke, Bart. deserves particular notice,
for

* *Gloucestershire Antiquities*. Several interesting Prints of the Church, and of different Monuments, are given in that Publication.

† Ibid.

for the taste and abilities displayed in the execution and drapery of the figures. Near the west end of the Church is the *Gate-House*, and a few other remains of the Abbey buildings. The former appears of the age of the fifteenth century: it is embattled, and ornamented with figures, projecting from a cornice; beneath which is a canopied niche, between two square windows.

The inhabitants of Tewkesbury are indebted, for the present handsome *Town-Hall*, to Sir William Codrington, Baronet, who erected it at an expense of 1200*l.* and presented it to the Corporation. The Hall was completed in 1788; the ground-floor is appropriated for the holding of the Quarter Sessions; and the principal story for a Banqueting or Ball Room: in the latter is a portrait of SIR WILLIAM CODRINGTON, painted by Sir William Beechy: a Drawing-Room, on the same floor, is used for meetings of the Corporation. The old *Town-Hall*, or *Tolsey*, originally served as a Market-Place; but, after that edifice was removed, twenty persons entered into an agreement with the Corporation, to erect the present *Market-House*, in consideration of a grant of the profits of the stalls, &c. for ninety-nine years; at the end of which term, the whole will revert to the Corporation. This building is of the Doric order, with a pediment, and two wings, supported by four pilasters, and two pillars, forming a very handsome portico, with large arches in the wings.

Among the charitable establishments are a *Free Grammar School*, a *Charity School*, and several *Alms-houses*. The borough *Gaol* appears to have been originally annexed to the Abbey, and used as a belfry. The *House of Industry* is a spacious and convenient building, situated on Holme-Hill, near the entrance of the town from Gloucester. The Independants, Quakers, Anabaptists, and Methodists, have each a meeting-house in this town.

The local government of Tewkesbury is vested in two Bailiffs and four Justices, with a Recorder, twenty-four principal Burgesses, and twenty-four Assistants: from the latter the Bailiffs and Justices are chosen. The Charter of incorporation was granted by Queen Elizabeth, and confirmed by James the First: but in the reign of James the Second, the Corporate Officers surrendered

their seal to that Monarch, who, in his second year, re-incorporated them, by the names of the Mayor, Aldermen, and Common Council. The Revolution, which immediately followed, prevented the Charter from being carried into effect; and the town remained in a state of indecision as to its government, till the thirteenth year of William the Third, when the present form was ordained.

The privilege of returning representatives to Parliament was obtained in March, 1609: the right of election is possessed by the freemen and freeholders, who amount to about 500.

Tewkesbury has several times suffered by the plague; particularly in 1592 and 1593. A few years before (anno 1580) the county assizes were held here, on account, as imagined, of that calamity being at Gloucester. On this occasion the Bailiffs charged 11s. for wine, and 13s. 4d. for tent, "to treat the court and their friends." From the low situation of the town, considerable damage has been frequently done by floods; and the shocks of an earthquake are recorded to have been twice felt here; once in the year 1675, and again in 1773.

The population of this town, as enumerated in the year 1723, amounted to 2866: according to the returns in 1801, the number of inhabitants was 4199; that of houses, 887: the latter are chiefly of brick, and principally ranged in three spacious streets. Since the year 1786, when an act was obtained for paving and lighting the town, &c. many improvements have been made; and the buildings assume an air of respectability. The working classes are mostly employed in stocking frame-work knitting, particularly cotton; in the manufacture of nails; and in the business of malting: the latter is carried on to a considerable extent.*

At WALTON, about one mile south-east of Tewkesbury, is a *Spring*, whose waters possess similar medicinal properties to those
of

* "Tewkesbury," observes Mr. Dyde, "was formerly famous for its manufactures: it had once a considerable share in the clothing business, but that trade has long since been lost. It was likewise remarkable for its mustard balls, which being very pungent, have occasioned this proverb to be applied to a sharp fellow; *He looks as if he lived on Tewkesbury Mustard*: and Shakespeare, speaking of one with a sad, severe countenance, uses the simile, *As thick as Tewkesbury Mustard*."

of Cheltenham; and some attempts were made, a few years ago, to bring them into equal repute, but without success.

DEERHURST, anciently *Deortyrste*, a village on the banks of the Severn, is celebrated as the site of a PRIORY founded by Duke Dodo, about the year 715, from respect to his brother Almaric, who resided and was buried here. The first building having been destroyed by the Danes, a new fabric was erected in the year 980; but the establishment continued in a languishing state till it was given, by Edward the Confessor, to the Abbey of St. Dennis, near Paris, in 1056, and became a Benedictine cell to that foundation. In 1250, it was purchased by Richard, Earl of Cornwall, but the Abbots of St. Dennis retained jurisdiction over it till 1422. Henry the Sixth finally dissolved it, granting its possessions to Eton College, from which they were taken by Edward the Fourth, and bestowed on the College at Fotheringhay, in Northamptonshire. Edward afterwards regranted them to Eton; and lastly to Tewkesbury Abbey, of whose estates they formed part at the Dissolution. The site of the Priory was purchased, in the seventeenth century, by the noble family of Coventry; and the Earl of Coventry is now owner. The Priory Church, though greatly dilapidated, and several other parts of the monastic buildings, are yet standing. The former retains many traces of Saxon architecture; and circular arches are incorporated in the walls, though the present arches are pointed; the greater part of the Church having been rebuilt about the year 1470, by William Whitchurch, Abbot of Hayles. The capitals of the pillars are foliated; and at the east end of the south aisle is a door, which led into the Prior's apartments. In the windows are remains of painted glass, displaying figures of female saints. A large slab of blue marble marks the place of interment of SIR JOHN CASSY, and his LADY, whose effigies are displayed by well-preserved *brasses* let into the stone. The former is represented in his robes as Chief Baron of the Exchequer: the latter, in a long, loose dress, fastened at the neck and wrists. Over their heads are neat pointed canopies, and some smaller figures. The other monastic buildings have been converted into a farm and its offices.

At BODINGTON, says Leland, "ther is a fayre maner place and a parke: it came to one Rede, servant to the Lorde Beauchampe, that married hys Lorde's daughter, the eldest of 3; and the Redes have yt stille." It is now the property of John Neale, Esq. and "is evidently of the first style of building that prevailed when castles were no longer necessary for the security of residence." This mansion is surrounded by a moat:* the park has been long cultivated.

In the parish of CORSE, great improvements have been lately effected by the inclosure of 1350 acres of land, that formerly bore the name of *Corse Lawn*, and anciently appears to have been covered with wood; the situation of Corse is very beautiful. CORSE COURT is the seat of Thomas Dowdeswell, Esq. son of the late William Dowdeswell, Esq. who was successively Speaker of the House of Commons, and Chancellor of the Exchequer.

In PAUNTLEY, a small parish bordering on Worcestershire, and some of the neighbouring places, "a custom, intended to prevent the smut in wheat, in some respects resembling the Scotch *Beltein*, prevails. On the eve of twelfth-day, all the servants of every particular farmer assemble together in one of the fields that has been sown with wheat. At the end of twelve lands, they make twelve fires in a row with straw; around one of which, made larger than the rest, they drink a cheerful glass of cyder to their master's health, and success to the future harvest; then returning home, they feast on cakes made of carraways, &c. soaked in cyder, which they claim as a reward for their past labors in sowing the grain."†

BROMESBERROW PLACE is the seat of Walter Honeywood Yate, Esq. a descendant from the very ancient and respectable family

* In an adjoining field was an *Oak* of extraordinary dimensions, a delineation of which was given in Lysons's Gloucestershire Etchings. The circumference of the bole was nearly eighteen yards: the lower part was quite hollow, forming a void sixteen feet in diameter. This venerable tree was destroyed by fire in the year 1790.

† Rudge's Gloucestershire, Vol. II. p. 42.

family of Yate, who were settled at Arlington in this county in the time of King John. The mansion is an elegant modern building, standing on the site of a more ancient structure, called Hook-House, which was pulled down by Robert Dobyns Yate, Esq. who succeeded to the estates about the year 1760.

DYMOCK was in former ages of greater extent and consequence than it now is: in Henry the Third's time it had the privilege of a market and fairs; but these have been long disused. Sir John Wyntour, the zealous partizan of Charles the First, had a garrison here for the King: it was most probably maintained in the old moated mansion near the road, on the southern borders of the parish, and within 200 yards of which is an artificial mount, called *Castle Tump*. Some of the manorial customs are peculiar.*

WHITEHOUSE, in Dymock parish, was the birth-place of the celebrated JOHN KYRLE, better known, perhaps, by the appellation of the *Man of Ross*, whose public virtues, combined with the felicity of having them recorded by a distinguished Poet, have obtained him a far greater proportion of the meed of praise, than usually falls to the lot of mortals. He was born in the year 1637, and died in 1724, at Ross, in Herefordshire; to the description of which town we shall defer the particulars of his life, as they are so peculiarly combined with the local circumstances of that place.

NEWENT

Is a small, irregular town, of but little importance; though formerly it was much larger, and had the privileges of a borough: it was also governed by a Bailiff, whose office appears to have fallen into disuse about the end of the seventeenth century. A house, now dilapidated, still bears the name of the *Boothall*. Its original appellation, according to Leland, was *New Inn*; from a building erected for the accommodation of travellers, when a commu-

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* See an account of these in Bigland, (Vol. I. p. 526,) as authenticated before a Committee of the House of Commons, in 1776.

nication was first opened by this road into Wales. The *Court-House*, now the property, together with the manor, of the Hon. Andrew Foley, was built on the site of an Alien PRIORY, supposed to have been founded by Roger de Montgomery, soon after the Norman Invasion; and at his instance, subjected by the Conqueror, to the Benedictine Abbey of Cormeille, in Normandy. Henry the Fourth granted its possessions to the Collegiate Church of Fotheringhay, in Northamptonshire, to which they remained annexed till the Dissolution. An ancient gateway, and some smaller fragments of the monastic buildings, yet remain. The *Church*, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, is a spacious edifice, of various architecture; it appearing to have been thrice partially rebuilt. Over the porch is a tower, terminating in a lofty spire, erected, with the roof of the nave, between the year 1673 and 1679: the latter "is supported by screws without pillars, like that of the *Theatre* in Oxford." The monuments are numerous: among them is a very ancient tomb, on which are the effigies of a Knight, in mail armour, and his lady: this is traditionally said to record the memory of a Baron Grandison. The register records the burial of "*Anne Wilson*, aged 115," in the year 1602. According to the late returns, the number of inhabitants amounted, in 1801, to 2354; that of houses, to 474. This neighbourhood was the scene of many military transactions during the Civil Wars. The parish includes a circumference of nearly twenty-five miles: it abounds with *Coal*; and two pits have been lately sunk by subscription: the thickness of the seam is between four and five feet; the depth to the coal, about forty-one yards.

HIGHNAM COURT, the seat of Sir Berkeley William Guise, Bart. the present Lord of the Manor of Highnam, is pleasantly situated about two miles west from Gloucester. The mansion was built by William Cooke, Esq. a Colonel under Cromwell, soon after the Civil Wars; the former edifice having been ruined from serving by turns as a garrison for both parties. The design is said to have been given by Inigo Jones, and with much probability, as its general plan nearly resembles that of Colleshill House in Berkshire. "The apartments are embellished with many original family

family portraits, particularly of GENERAL GUISE in a Roman character, painted by Gervaise Hamilton, at Rome. During the General's residence in Italy, he made his own sumptuous collection, which he afterwards bequeathed to Christ Church, Oxford. The family pictures were returned to the heir at law, and a very fine Madona, by Titian, as one of them. An original portrait of CROMWELL, most probably by R. Walker, given by the Protector himself to Colonel Cooke; and another of the patriot ALGERNON SYDNEY, by Lely. Besides these, is a half-length of MRS. JANE LANE, who conducted the escape of Charles the Second, after the decisive battle at Worcester."* Near the house is a private Chapel, in which several of the Cooke family have been buried. The park is extensive; and the pleasure grounds judiciously disposed.

In the Church-yard at LONGHOPE, is an inscription, recording the burial-place of MR. THOMAS BRIGHT, who died in the year 1708, at the great age of 124. Sir Robert Atkyns has mentioned him as possessing his sight, and strength to walk, notwithstanding his extreme longevity.

DEAN MICHEL, OR MICHEL DEAN,

Is a small town, irregularly built, and evidently of remote origin; as its name is derived from the Saxon words *Dene*, and *Micl*: the former explanatory of its situation in a very deep dell;† the latter, significant of its relative consequence to the neighbouring village, bearing the appellation of Little Dean. Sir John Greynour, who was Lord of the Manor in the reign of Henry the Fourth, was Sheriff of Gloucestershire in the years 1405 and 1409.‡ The manor is now the property of the Colchester family, who

Y y 2

became

* Bigland's Collections, &c. Vol. I. p. 335.

† See page 125.

‡ The official seal of this gentleman was found a few years ago near Dursley, and is now in the possession of a person of that town.

became possessed of it about the commencement of the last century. "The *Church*, dedicated to St. Michael, is nearly quadrangular; and consists of a nave, chancel, two north aisles, and one south aisle, with a tower adjoining, terminated by a well-proportioned octagonal spire, 156 feet high from the foundation. The aisles appear to have been built at different periods, as the forms of the arches are various: and the whole fabric underwent considerable reparations about 100 years ago: the roof is of oak timber, studded with roses, and other devices, finely carved. In the east window of the further north aisle, are some perfect remains of painted glass, with which the Church was profusely decorated: in the higher compartments is an assemblage of female figures, with musical instruments; and dispersed in other panes, the heads of nobles and ecclesiastics of either sex, delicately wrought."* Many sepulchral memorials are exhibited in this Church; and among them various mutilated slabs, that were once ornamented with brasses. The *Font* is supposed, by Mr. Lysons, to have been cut out of a capital of some column, as the lower part displays carvings of figures and pillars, evidently turned bottom upwards: from the ornaments, he imagines it to be as ancient as the twelfth century. A subterraneous passage, concerning which many legendary stories are told, leads from this Church to a wood upon a hill about half a mile from the town.† The manners of the inhabitants of Dean Michel are reported to have been greatly improved since the establishment of a *Charity School*, established some years ago by voluntary subscription. The population of this parish, as returned under the late act, amounted to 563; the houses to 125: the latter are principally ranged in three streets, resembling the Roman Y. A small manufacture of leather is carried on here.

FLAXLEY was the site of a Cistercian ABBEY, founded, in the reign of Stephen, by Roger Fitz-Milo, second Earl of Hereford, on the spot where his brother had been accidentally killed by an arrow, while hunting. Henry the Second confirmed the original donations, and further enriched the Abbey, by the gift of
various

* Bigland's Gloucestershire, Vol. I. p. 445.

† Ibid.

various neighbouring manors, together with an iron forge, in the Forest of Dean, and two oaks weekly, to supply it with fuel. This latter grant was revoked by Henry the Third, it having been found prejudicial to the Forest, and a wood* given in lieu of the former privilege.† At the time of the Dissolution, the annual revenues were valued at 112l. 13s. 1d. The site of the Abbey, with its appendages, were, in 1545, granted to Sir Anthony Kingston. The estate is now the property of Sir Thomas Crawley Boevey, Bart. who derived it from the *Clarks*. The Abbot's lodging was made the family residence, and continued in tolerable preservation till the year 1777, when a considerable part was destroyed by fire. The remainder, with many additions, forms the present mansion, which contains some good family pictures. The floor of the Chapter-House was discovered a few years ago, at a small depth in the garden; and seven stone coffin lids were dug up, sculptured with ornamented crosses. The surrounding scenery is strikingly picturesque, and particularly from a natural terrace, on the north east side of the Park. In the *Church* is an inscription, to the memory of Mrs. CATHERINE BOEVEY, who

Y y 3

died

* Since called the *Abbot's Wood*: "the manufactory is still carried on, and the iron is esteemed particularly good; but its goodness does not arise from any extraordinary qualities of the ore, but from the practice of working the furnace and forges with charcoal wood, without any mixture of pit-coal. The quantity of charcoal required is so considerable, that the furnace cannot be kept in *blow* more than nine months successively. Lancashire ore, which is brought to Newnham by sea, furnishes the principal supply: a ton of it in the furnace requires fifteen or sixteen sacks of charcoal. When the furnace is at work, about twenty tons a week are reduced to pig-iron: in this state it is carried to the forges, where about eight tons a week are hammered out into bars, plough-shares, &c. ready for the smith. The wheels which work the bellows and hammers, are turned by a powerful stream of water, which rises at *St. Anthony's Well*, and, after passing the works, falls into a large bason, and at length empties itself into the Severn, near Newnham." *Rudge's Gloucestershire*, Vol. II. p. 96.

† In perusing the records of this Abbey, it is observable, that the *Chesnut*, said to have been imported into this kingdom long subsequently to the dates of those records, is stated to be a timber tree; and, from the numerous old roofs that have been found of this wood, it was, doubtless, indigenous to the soil.

died in 1726, and whose virtues are recorded on a Cenotaph in Westminster Abbey.

LITTLE DEAN, or *Dene Parva*, now a distinct parish, was formerly included in that of Dean Michel; and, like that, is productive of coal, and iron ore. The village is populous, and appears, from a curious *Market Cross* near the middle of it, to have formerly been privileged as a market-town. Round the shaft of the Cross is a low octangular roof; the upper part is finished by a carved pinnacle, with small niches and statues. The laboring classes are chiefly employed as miners, or in the manufacture of nails. The principal estate, with a handsome mansion, belongs to Joseph Pyrke, Esq. a descendant, by the female line, from the family of that name, who are reported to have been seated in this neighbourhood from the time of the Conquest. A *Penitentiary House*, for the Forest division, on an improved plan, has been built here, under the direction of Sir G. O. Paul, Bart. The *Church* is a spacious and handsome building, and contains some remains of finely painted glass.

The FOREST OF DEAN* is limited according to the perambulations made in the twelfth of Henry the Third, and tenth of Edward the First. The quantity of ground it includes, belonging to the Crown, exclusive of freehold property obtained by encroachments or grant, is stated at 23,015 acres. Many depredations have been made upon the Forest, at various times, either through the neglect of the officers, or the too improvident grants of Sovereigns; but in no instance, perhaps, was greater mischief done, than by Sir John Wyntour, to whom a grant was made, by Charles the First, of all the King's coppices, and waste soil of the Forest, except the Lea Bailey, with all mines and quarries, in consideration of 10,600*l.* and a fee-farm rent of 1950*l.* 12*s.* 8*d.* for ever. At that time, within the limits of the Forest so granted, were

* The derivation of the name of this Forest has been much disputed; but that of *Sylva Danica* is too futile for admissible conjecture; as it was occupied by the Silurian Britons long before the incursions of the Danes. A more obvious etymology, and probably the real one, is found in its British name, *Danys Coed*; that is, *the Wood of Fallow Deer*; the very creature for which this Forest was famous for centuries.

were growing 105,557 trees, containing 61,928 tons of timber; besides 153,209 cords of wood. The Civil War put an end to the patent; and the inclosures which had been made, were thrown down, and the whole re-afforested. At the Restoration, the grant was revived; but, on a representation to Parliament of the injury which the neighbouring inhabitants, and the public, were likely to sustain, a commission was issued to inquire into the state of the Forest; and, upon an accurate survey, there were found 25,929 oaks, and 4204 beeches, containing 121,572 cords of wood, and 11,335 tons of ship timber. On the return of the Commissioners, a new grant was made to the nominees of Sir John Wyntour, of all the above trees, excepting the timber fit for the navy. Five hundred fellers of wood were immediately employed; and so rapid was the devastation, that an order of Parliament was made, to prevent any further felling of timber, or cutting of wood. Before a bill could be passed, however, the Parliament was prorogued, and Sir John left to pursue his pleasure, which he did so effectually, that, on a new survey, in 1667, only 200 of the oak and beech trees were standing, and a deficiency of 7000 or 8000 tons was found in the quantity that should have been reserved for the navy. To repair these mischiefs, 11,000 acres were immediately inclosed, planted, and carefully guarded; and from the plantations then made, the supply for the Dock-Yards is now principally obtained. Other inclosures have been made, within the last thirty-five years, of upwards of 2800 acres; but the fences of the chief part having been demolished, not more than 323 acres are expected to produce useful timber. About 1000 loads are annually supplied for the use of the navy.

In its present state, the Forest is divided into six walks; and its government vested in a Lord-Warden, who is Constable of the Castle of St. Briavel's; six Deputy-Wardens; four Verdurers, chosen by the freeholders; a Conservator; seven Woodwarders; a Chief Forester in Fee,* and Bow Bearer; eight Foresters in Fee;

Y y 4

a Gaveller;

* The office of Chief Forester in Fee is held by the Wyndham family, in right of inheritance. He has no salary, but claims to be entitled to the left shoulder

a Gaveller; and a Steward of the Swanimote. These officers are empowered to hold a Court of Attachment every forty days: a Court of Swanimote, thrice every year; and another Court, called the Justice Seat, once in three years. These Courts are held at the King's Lodge, or *Speech House*, situated nearly in the centre of the Forest.

As the whole Forest is extra-parochial, and its inhabitants exempted from rates and taxes, with free liberty of pasturage, access to the woods and timber, and the privilege of sinking mines, many persons have been induced to form residences here; and, according to the late returns, the population amounted to 3325; the number of houses to 720: nearly all the latter have been built within the last 100 years; the six lodges, erected for the keepers, being the only houses in the Forest in the time of Sir Robert Atkyns. The Crown possesses the right of keeping 800 deer here, at all times; but these animals are so scarce, that the annual warrant issued from the Crown, for four bucks, and four does, is frequently sent back unexecuted.

The free miners and colliers claim a right, not only to dig for coal and ore, with the consent of the Gaveller, but also to be supplied with wood and timber for their works; and on an average of seven years, nearly 1500 trees are annually delivered to them. The improvements that have been made in other counties, in the mode of working and draining mines, have scarcely been introduced into the Forest, through the jealous anxiety of the laborers, about their respective rights. The sixth part of the produce of each mine is due to the King: the annual composition is called the King's *Gawl*, and is paid to the Gaveller.

The general appearance of the Forest is beautiful and picturesque, finely interspersed with deep vallies, and rising grounds.

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shoulder of all bucks and does killed within the Forest; also to ten fee bucks, and ten fee does, annually, to be thence taken and killed, according to his own will; with unlimited right of hunting, hawking, and fishing, within the Forest. As Bow Bearer, he is to attend the King, with a bow and arrow, and six stout bowmen, clothed in green, whenever his Majesty hunts within the Forest.

The majestic oak, expanded beech, hanging birch trees, hawthorns, and underwood, adorn the prospects with rich, verdant, and various foliage; and the scenery is in many parts animated by copious springs, whose ochreous colors point out the richness of the iron ore over which they flow. Some new roads have lately been opened through the Forest, in pursuance of an act passed in the thirty-sixth of his present Majesty. The Forest abounds with orchards, and the cyder made of its almost peculiar produce, the Styre apple, is peculiarly fine, and bears a very high price.

NEWNHAM

Is a small town, situated on an eminence rising from the western banks of the Severn,* which is here nearly a mile in width
at

* The impetuous tide called the *Bore*, or *Hygre*, which rises in the river Severn, has been already mentioned, (p. 511:) but a more enlarged detail of this phenomenon may, perhaps, be acceptable. The *Bore*, or *Head*, as it is also called, begins to form at the approach of the vernal and autumnal equinoxes, and continues till those seasons are some time past. Such is the force of the current, that it sometimes runs with uncommon violence for twenty or thirty miles up the country, inundating the low lands to a vast extent; and the rapidity is occasionally so great, that it rises several feet in a minute, foaming and raging like a hideous whirlpool. Sea walls have been constructed in various places to restrain its fury; yet, as an old writer expresses it, “this Prince of Rivers, at these times, seems to bid defiance to all controul; takes his rapid marches over an immense tract of country, and returns at leisure with all the complacency of an invincible conqueror.” Instances have occurred, when it has been known to overflow its artificial barriers more than three feet perpendicular. It commences by a more than usual swell, with vast undulations, till, as it increases, these are broken in their return by the confluent waves: turbulence, foam, dashing, and noise, now accompany the rolling of an inconceivable body of water, that rises mountains high, and excites the frequently-accompanying ideas of terror and sublimity. Its more familiar name, the *Bore*, is apparently derived from the British word *Búr*, which, though differently spelt, is pronounced in the same manner, and means indignation, violence, or tumult. It is comprehended in that part of the Severn between the parishes of Westbury and Awre, on the west; and Frithern and Framilode, or the mouth of the Stroud river, on the east.* From a point in the parish of Westbury, the river takes a course nearly resembling

9 This part of the bed of the river is called the Frith; and the village of Frithern hence derives its name, as the head or point of the Frith.

at high water. Its origin is remote, and was probably, in a certain degree, connected with a ford, formed by a ridge of rocks, uniting with a bed of sand, and sufficiently near the surface, at low water, to admit both of the crossing of foot passengers and carriages.* In the Norman times it appears to have been fortified to repress the incursions of the Welsh; and in the records of St. Bartholemew's Hospital, in Gloucester, relating to grants of certain lands in Newnham, mention of a *Castle* here is frequently made; but no remains of it are now to be traced. The fortifications on the south, are probably of Norman origin; the circumvallation on the back of the town, must be referred to the time of the Civil Wars, when Newnham was garrisoned for the King by Sir John Wyntour, whose soldiers were obliged to
surrender

resembling a horse-shoe, almost insulating the parish of Arlington; the greater part of which is one continued marsh, secured by sea walls. The river has often changed its bed in this part of its channel; nor can there be a doubt but that it once flowed at the foot of what is called Barrow Hill, (an eminence from which thirty-six churches may be discerned in a clear day;) but the depredations are most frequent on the side of Awre. In the tything of Blakeney, a small rivulet rises, and running through the village, empties itself into the Severn at Breame Pill. Between this and the opposite shore, the river is two miles wide: in the centre of it, in a direction from the Church of Awre to Frithern, or rather Frampton Pill, lies a very large sand bank, called the *Noose*. The tide flowing in, is first obstructed by this grand obstacle; it then divides, and each divergent current is again met by the converging shores; and from the curvature of the river's bed, as well as the shallow and limited channel, every yard of the banks forms a resisting point to every passing wave. The tide being thus impeded both in its state of flux and reflux, and the *freshes* being particularly abundant at the equinoxes, an accumulation of water is formed prodigiously great, and assuming the appearances above stated. At these times the navigation of the Severn is highly dangerous; and as the violence of the Hygre frequently disturbs the Noose sands, it is attended with great uncertainty. The difficulties of the passage for vessels has probably been increased by embankments, or sea walls, injudiciously made.

* During the year 1802, this bed of sand was removed by the river changing its direction.—*Rudge's Gloucestershire, Vol. II. p. 388.*

surrender to Colonel Massie, about twenty of them having been previously killed in the Church, whither they had fled for shelter.

Newnham was one of the five boroughs in this county, returned on a mandate from the Crown, in the ninth of Edward the First, and was then governed by a Mayor and Burgesses; and till lately the inhabitants amused themselves with electing a Mayor and six Aldermen annually; though the government of the town has long been vested in two Constables. A sword of state, presented by King John, is still preserved as a testimony of former greatness: it is of polished steel, highly ornamented, and of exquisite workmanship. The former consequence of Newnham may also be inferred from many names of streets and lanes that appear in ancient grants, but whose situations are now forgotten. It was likewise distinguished through being appointed as the place of meeting between Henry the Second, and Earl Strongbow, of Chepstow, on the return of the latter from his conquests in Ireland.

A *Quay*, for vessels of 150 tons burthen, was built here about fifty years ago, by one of the Pyrke family; and some trade is now carried on with Bristol, London, and other parts; but the difficult navigation of this portion of the river, has occasioned much of its trade to be removed to Gatcombe, a port a few miles lower down. A verdigrease manufactory, and a little ship building, furnish the principal employ to the laboring inhabitants. The first *Glass-house* in England worked with stone coal, is said, by Rudder, to have been erected here in the reign of Charles the First, by Sir Edward Mansell; but this must be erroneous, as fine glass was manufactured at Crutched Friars, in London, as early as the year 1557.

The *Church* stands on a commanding cliff near the river: the arch leading into the chancel, is ornamented with zig-zag mouldings, and conjectured to have been preserved from the ruins of a more ancient edifice, which stood at a place called Nabb's-End. The population of this parish, as returned in 1801, was 821; the number of houses 145: the latter are mostly ranged in one long street, but singularly disposed; for though they front each other, the perspective side of each is on the reverse. The manor is now
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the property of Henry Howard, Esq. representative for the city of Gloucester.

In crossing the Forest from Newnham, the wildness of the scenery, sometimes immersed in a depth of shade, and sometimes assuming the most dreary aspect, from the hollows of deserted mines, the heaps of rubbish that have been raised from them, and the occasional thickness of the underwood, excite ideas of melancholy seclusion; though the attention is occasionally relieved by the recurrence of mines and pits still in work. A brighter scene, however, presents itself in the view of ENGLISH BICKNOR, so called, because another Bicknor stands on the opposite, and what was formerly called the Welsh side of the river Wye. The soil is here, lime-stone, accompanied by coal and iron, and several mines of each are worked in the neighbourhood. The meadows towards the river are very fruitful; and the excellent orchards of Styre, and other fruits, together with the lively trait which water always bestows, gives a degree of brilliant richness to this little spot. The Church stands within the area of an ancient *Fortification*, the fosse of which is still perfect in places. Beyond is a bold jutting promontory, round which the river winds in a tortuous stream: it consists of a vast lime-stone cliff, of considerable perpendicular height: by water the passage is nearly three miles; though it is but a few hundred yards across the promontory in a right line. Part of this eminence has been planted by the proprietor, George Wyrhale, Esq. who has an occasional residence at BICKNOR COURT, which in a considerable degree partakes of the romantic character of the Wye.

The KYMIN, a considerable eminence, in the parish of Stanton, has become celebrated from a NAVAL TEMPLE that has been erected on its summit, to record the eminent victories obtained by the English on the seas, but particularly during the last war. This edifice is built on the ridge of a rock; and forms a square of thirteen feet. The frieze, which is continued round it, is ornamented with medallions of the most eminent British Admirals, surrounded with emblematical and appropriate devices: The expense of this building was defrayed by subscription. The
views

views from the summit of the Kymin, are uncommonly extensive, and from some points, highly picturesque. In the parish of Stanton, also, on the edge of a precipitous declivity of lime-stone rock, is another object that has attracted much attention. This is a rude fragment of silicious grit, called the **BUCKSTONE**, the general form of which resembles an irregular square pyramid, inverted, and standing on its point, or apex. Its circumference at top, is somewhat more than fifty-six feet; the point on which it rests, about three feet: its texture is extremely firm. Mr. King, in his *Munimenta Antiqua*, considers it as a Logan, or Rocking-Stone. A Roman road is said to have led from Stanton up the Kymin towards Monmouth; and vestiges of a considerable entrenchment appear in the vicinity of the Church.

COLEFORD,

THOUGH only a chapelry to Newland, has the privilege of a market, the charter for which was granted by James the First. The original Market-house was destroyed in a skirmish which happened here previously to the siege of Gloucester, between some Royalists, commanded by Lord Herbert, and the Parliament's forces under Colonel Barrow: in this contest Sir Richard Lawdy, Major-General of South Wales, and several officers, were killed. The present Market-house was built in the year 1679, Charles the Second giving 40*l.* towards the expenses. The *Chapel* was also destroyed during the Civil War, but rebuilt in the time of Queen Anne, who contributed 300*l.* Traces of Claud Offa, or King Offa's Dyke, are still visible here. The houses are generally good buildings, ranged in one wide street.

NEWLAND is a pleasant village, forming an irregular square round the Church, and inhabited by many respectable families. The *Church*, dedicated to All Saints, is a spacious edifice, with a tower at the west end, neatly ornamented with pinnacles, and open-worked battlements. In the Church-yard, which is large, and laid out with gravel walks, are some ancient tombs of the

Wyrhale

Wyrhale family. On the west side is a *Grammar School*, founded in 1632, by Edward Bell, Gent. with a house and endowment for a master. Here is also an Alms-House, founded by the same gentleman for eight poor people. The principal houses being detached, and interspersed with trees and gardens, give this village an air of rural elegance but seldom seen. The inhabitants of this parish, as returned under the late act, amounted to 2454; the number of houses to 522.

HIGHMEADOW, the seat of Lord Viscount Gage, is about half a mile north from Newnham. The mansion, which stands on a fine bold elevation, is a noble structure, with double wings, which give it the appearance of a square. The bird's-eye view of the village from the house is extremely pleasing.

CLEARWELL, also in Newland parish, is the seat of Thomas Wyndham, Esq. representative for the county of Glamorgan. The mansion is a handsome structure, situated in a pleasant park: it was erected by the grandfather of the present proprietor; the plantations are fine, and judiciously disposed.

ST. BRIAVEL'S is the name of a village, Castle, and hundred; the latter of which comprehends nearly the whole of the Forest of Dean, and possesses peculiar privileges. The village was formerly of greater extent than at present, as appears from the ruined foundations of buildings; and was once regarded as a borough and market-town; Edward the Second having bestowed the latter privilege; and Edward the Third, at the request of Guy de Bryan, granted its Burgesses an exemption from all toll throughout the realm. These immunities are now obsolete; but the parochial inhabitants, from immemorial custom, have still the right of common in a wood called *Hudnells*, and its purlieus, which include a tract of land on the banks of the Wye, in the form of a crescent, about six miles long, and one broad; and of cutting *wood*, but not *timber*, in other parts of the Forest. These claims were set aside by Cromwell, and afterwards contested, but allowed after the Restoration. Tradition asserts, that they were obtained for the inhabitants of St. Briavel's by a benevolent Countess of Hereford, on the same capricious terms which the Lady Godiva performed to procure

procure the boasted privileges of the men of Coventry; a condition of the grant, is said to be a custom yet observed, of collecting one penny from every inhabitant annually, for the purchase of bread and ale, to be distributed to every claimant on the ensuing Whitsunday. Through the above privileges, the city of Bristol is served with vast numbers of hoops, poles, faggot-wood, &c. and large quantities of hoops are also sent to the West India Islands.

The CASTLE was erected in the reign of Henry the First, by Milo Fitz-Walter, Earl of Hereford, to curb the incursions of the Welsh. In that family it continued about a century, when it reverted, by forfeiture, to the Crown, by whom its Constables have ever since been appointed, and retain their situations during Royal pleasure. The site of the Castle is surrounded by a moat, and comprehends an extent of about 500 yards. The north-west front, which is nearly all that has escaped the ravages of time, is composed of two circular towers, three stories high, separated by a narrow, elliptical gateway: within the towers are several hexagonal apartments, whose walls are eight feet thick, and one of which is used as a prison for the hundred. In the interior two gateways present themselves, of similar dimensions to the former: on the right are the remains of an apartment, forty feet by twenty, with large pointed windows; and on the left are the vestiges of a spacious hall. In the centre is a low building, which serves as a kind of anti-chamber to the room, in which the officers of the Hundred assemble to hold their courts. This room appears from the date M.D.LXVII. on one of the beams, to have been fitted up about that time. The chimney-piece is an early specimen of the modern style, with mouldings of rude sculpture. On the highest rampart stood the keep, consisting of a large square tower, more than one hundred feet high, flanked by two smaller towers, about half that height; but of this the greater part fell in the year 1754, and the remainder just twenty years afterwards: large masses of the ruins are yet remaining, adhering together by the strength of the cement. The surrounding scenery is beautifully varied, and romantic in an eminent degree.

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The *Church*, dedicated to St. Mary, is an ancient building, in the form of a cross, with two narrow aisles, separated from the nave, by rows of pillars; those on the south are of early Norman architecture. In the chancel is a large mural monument, to the memory of WILLIAM WARREN, Esq. and MARIANA, his wife, who died in the reign of Elizabeth, and whose effigies, in the dress of the times, are displayed, in reclining positions, on the tomb. The Earl of Berkeley is Lord of the Manor, and Constable of the Castle.

The descent, from St. Briavel's Church to BICKWEAR, or BIXWEAR, near which is the seat of General Rooke, is almost covered with blocks of lime-stone, very similar to the grey stone of St. Vincent's rocks. These being more than half buried in the earth, assume a singular appearance, not unlike the Grey Weathers on Marlborough Downs. In a neighbouring field, called *Closetuft*, is an immense single stone, ten feet above the ground, which is traditionally supposed to mark the place of interment of some warlike chieftain.

In the parish of Tydenham, at a point of land called BEACHLEY, formed by the confluence of the rivers Wye and Severn, is the Ferry called the *Old Passage*; and near it, among the rocks, on Treacle Island, a small tract, that appears to have been separated from the main land, in former ages, by the violence of the Severn, are the ruins of a small Chapel, that was dedicated to St. Tecla, who is said to have been martyred in the year 47. Beachley, from its almost insulated situation, must always have been of great importance in a military point of view. Extensive earth-works are still remaining, probably of British origin, constructed to defend the passage of the Severn. That they were occupied by the Saxons is evident, as Offa's Dyke terminates here, and may be clearly traced crossing the road at Buttington Tump. In the Civil Wars it was considered as of such extreme consequence, that Prince Rupert detached 500 horse and foot to occupy and fortify it; but, before the fortifications were completed, the garrison was dislodged, with great loss, by Governor Massie. Another, and a desperate battle, was fought here, between the Parliament's forces

and the Royalists, under Sir John Wyntour, when the latter was defeated, with the loss of 220 men; and himself reported to have been forced down the Cliff, (now called Wyntour's Leap,) into the river, where a small boat lay ready to receive him.

ALVINGTON, or *Aventon*, as it is now called, has been imagined the *Abone* of the Romans, by several antiquaries, on the authority of Camden; though neither the distances of the Itinerary, nor the discovery of any Roman remains, or even traces of encampment, appear to support the supposition.

LYDNEY, an adjoining parish, on the north, has far better claims to the honor of a station than *Aventon*; and, from the encampments, and Roman remains found here, it was most probably a permanent one; though it does not seem to have any name in the Itineraries. Here, on two hills of considerable elevation, are two camps, or forts, overlooking the Severn. The largest, which is of an oblong form, in length 830 feet, and 370 in breadth, stands on the northernmost eminence, and is surrounded by a single ditch, except towards the east end, where the descent being less steep, it has a double one: on the other hill, which is separated by a narrow valley, is the smaller camp, encompassed with a single ditch. Near the western edge of the largest work, are the remains of a *Roman Bath*, of an oval form, about eighteen feet in length, and nine in breadth. Various foundations of buildings, statues, fragments of Tessellated Pavements, urns, and Roman coins, have also been found here: among the coins were many of Hadrian and Antoninus, and a silver one, of Galba.

The above antiquities were all included within the boundaries of LYDNEY PARK, now the seat of the Right Hon. Charles Bragge Bathurst, a descendant, by the female line, from Benjamin Bathurst, Esq. (younger brother of Allen, first Earl Bathurst,) who purchased the manor of the heirs of Sir John Wyntour. The old mansion, called Whitecross, was built here by Sir William Wyntour, who was Vice Admiral of England, and to whom the manor had been granted by Queen Elizabeth, for his gallant conduct in the defeat of the Spanish Armada. This building was fortified by Sir John Wyntour during the Civil Wars; and the

neighbourhood became, in consequence, the theatre of several severe actions. "Sir John," observes Corbet, "was a zealous Papist, and subtle wit, that pretended innocency till his howre was come, and had almost perswaded the world, that he durst deny himselfe, and commit an unpardonable sinne against the Catho-like cause. His house in the Forrest of Deane was at first neglected; but under hand he prepared for defence, suddenly clapt in his owne confidants, and with a little labour made it inaccessible, but with apparent great losse, and maintained his den as the plague of the Forrest, and a goad in the sides of this garrison."* Sir John, as appears from the same author, "deserted and fired his house," when the Royal cause had become desperate. It was afterwards repaired by B. Bathurst, Esq. Not far distant from the house, in a wood, is an excavation called the *Scowls*, which forms a kind of irregular rocky trench of considerable extent, and is overhung by trees, and underwood: the entrance is between upright pillars of unwrought stone, and the interior is fringed with moss and shrubs.

BERKELEY,

A small and now almost disused market town, is situated on a pleasant eminence in the beautiful Vale of Berkeley, about one mile east from the Severn. Its origin is remote, but unknown, though certainly anterior to the Conquest, as it is styled a royal demesne and free borough in the Domesday Book. A Religious House also existed here in the reign of Edward the Confessor; but whether of monks, or nuns, is disputed: though a traditional tale has long been current, that the establishment was a nunnery; and that the frail sisters were dispossessed of their estates (including the manor) by the craft of Earl Godwin, who found means to introduce into the community, a profligate young man, by whom the nuns were seduced, and rendered dissolute. This conduct being reported to the King, the nunnery was dissolved, and its possessions

* Military Government of Gloucester, p. 38.

tions granted to the Earl. The Conqueror afterwards bestowed the manor on Roger, surnamed de Berkeley; a chieftain who had accompanied him to England. Roger, his grandson, taking part with Stephen against Henry the Second, was deprived of his lands; and Berkeley was given by that Monarch to Robert Fitz-Harding, Governor of Bristol, in reward for his eminent services. This Nobleman was descended from the Kings of Denmark; and in his posterity the extensive Manor of Berkeley is still vested.

BERKELEY CASTLE, the ancient baronial residence of this family, and now the seat of George Augustus, Earl of Berkeley, appears to have been founded by Roger de Berkeley soon after the Conquest, but owes some portion of its present form to Henry the Second, when Duke of Normandy; though various important additions were made by the Berkeleys during the time of that Monarch, and in the reigns of Edward the Second and Third. The form of the Castle approaches nearest to that of a circle; and the buildings are included by an irregular court, with a moat. The keep, the most ancient part, is flanked by three semi-circular towers, and a square one of subsequent construction: its walls are high, and massive: the entrance into it is under an arched doorway, with ornamental sculpture in the Norman style, similar to one at Arundel Castle.

During the seven centuries that this fortress has bid defiance to time, it has been the scene of various memorable transactions; the most remarkable, perhaps, was of the murder of Edward the Second, in September, 1327.

Mark the year, and mark the night,
When Severn shall re-echo with affright,
The shrieks of death through Berkeley's roofs that ring;
Shrieks of an agonizing King!

GRAY'S BARD.

When the death of this unfortunate, but weak Sovereign, had been resolved on by the Queen, and Mortimer, her infamous paramour, he was removed from Kenelworth to Berkeley Castle, by Sir John Maltravers, and Sir Thomas Gourney, to whose keeping

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he had been previously committed. Thomas, second Lord Berkeley, then owner of the Castle, treated him with civility and kindness, but was, in a short time, obliged to relinquish his fortress to the government of Maltravers and Gourney, by whom the King was soon afterwards murdered, in the most brutal and savage manner.* "His crie," says Holinshed, "did move many within the Castell and town of Birckelei to compassion, plainly hearing him utter a waileful noyse, as the tormenters were about to murder him; so that dyvers being awakened thereby, (as they themselves confessed,) prayed heartilie to God to receyve his soule, when they understode by his crie, what the matter ment." A small apartment, called the Dungeon-Room, over the flight of steps leading into the keep, is shown as the place where the cruel deed was committed: at that time, all the light it received, was from arrow slits; the windows have been since introduced. A plaister cast kept here, and said to have been moulded from the King's face after death, is, in reality, a cast from his effigies on the tomb at Gloucester. During the Civil Wars, Berkeley Castle was held for the King; and frequent skirmishes took place in the town and neighbourhood. In 1645 it was besieged, and surrendered to the Parliament, after a defence of nine days.

In the apartments, which, though in perfect repair, are mostly low, dark, and void of proportion, are preserved a numerous assemblage of portraits, chiefly of the STRATTON branch, the bequest of the last heir of that family. The two best portraits are those of GEORGE, Baron Berkeley, 1616, and the QUEEN of BOHEMIA; both by Cornelius Jansen. The former was a patron of learning, and to him Burton dedicated his *Anatomy of Melancholy*. Besides these portraits, here are several miniatures of the Berkeleys, of considerable antiquity, and so far curious. A few
landscapes,

* "Ipso prostrato, et sub ostio ponderoso detento ne surgeret, dum tortores imponerent cornu in ano suo (quod dictu verecundum est) et per foramen immitterent ignitum veru in viscera sua." *Walsingham's Hist. Ang.* p. 127. Thomas de la More, who was Privy Counsellor to Edward, and wrote his Life, says, that the murder was committed with a plumber's iron, "cum ferro plumberri intensè ignito," &c. p. 603.

landscapes, by Wouvermans, Claude, Salvator Rosa, &c. complete the collection.

The *Church* at Berkeley is dedicated to St. Mary, and appears, from its architecture, to be of the age of Henry the Second; though it has undergone various subsequent alterations. Near the pulpit is a curious tomb, in memory of THOMAS, second Lord Berkeley, and MARGARET, his first wife. Various other monuments of this family are also preserved here. The tower stands at some distance from the Church; and was constructed about fifty years ago. In the Church-yard is the well-known and whimsical epitaph, written by Dean Swift, in memory of "Dickey Pearce, the Earl of Suffolk's Fool." The township of Berkeley, according to the late-returns, contains 99 houses, and 658 inhabitants.

Berkeley has the honor of giving birth to DR. EDWARD JENNER, the celebrated discoverer of the *Vaccine Inoculation*, the extraordinary properties of which, in preventing the ravages of the small-pox, by rendering its infection harmless, has already been made known to the most distant quarters of the globe; and time will attest the merit of the discovery, till time itself shall be no more.

THORNBURY

Is an ancient borough and market-town, principally consisting of three streets, in the form of the Roman Y, "having first one longe strete," says Leland, "and two hornes goyne owt of it." The market is but little frequented. Its government is vested in a Mayor, and twelve Aldermen; but the power of these officers is much limited by disuse. The *Church*, dedicated to the Virgin, is spacious and handsome: the tower is lofty, and ornamented with rich open-worked battlements, and eight pinnacles. The population, as returned under the late act, amounted to 856, the number of houses to 176.

At the end of the town are the remains of the unfinished Palatial CASTLE of Thornbury, the building of which was begun by Edward Stafford, Duke of Buckingham, but stopped when he was beheaded in 1522. The fate of the noble founder, who was be-

trayed by his domestics, and sacrificed to the resentment of Wolsey, was a prelude to the numerous acts of cruelty and injustice, which disgraced the reign of Henry the Eighth, of whom it was justly observed, by Sir Walter Raleigh, that, if the portrait of all the tyrants upon earth had been lost to mankind, it was renewed in the character of that Monarch.

Thornbury Castle may be considered as particularly deserving of notice, from its affording, even in its present state of decay, a happy specimen of the last gradation of "Gothic architecture," in the application of that style to castellated houses. The former splendors of Richmond, and Nonsuch, which were contemporary with it, are known to us only by description and engravings; and Hampton Court, though it rose under the hands of Wolsey, at the same period, is certainly less rich in the minute and capricious ornaments peculiar to the buildings of Henry the Seventh, and his successor. A small part most resembling Thornbury, is seen at Windsor Castle, in an addition made by the first mentioned Sovereign.

Leland, who visited the splendid pile which the Duke of Buckingham had here commenced on the site of an ancient fortress, of considerable extent, informs us, that the principal front, towards the west, was nearly finished; and another, towards the south, completely so: the stately gateway had risen only to the first floor, as it still remains. It is evident, from a survey made in the year 1582, that the whole southern side was habitable, and that it consisted of several chambers, of magnificent dimensions. The tower, the walls of which are perfect, was divided into four rooms, the Duke's own apartments: this stands at the south-west angle of the Castle. The Duke was meditating the re-erection of the old Hall, on the east side, and to complete the quadrangle, which would have inclosed an area of two acres and a half, when his fatal attainder closed his views for ever. The chimneys are very curiously constructed, and beautiful; being composed of brick, wrought into spiral columns, the bases of which are charged with the cognizances of the family, and the Stafford's knot, so well known to the lovers of heraldry. Within the circuit walls, founded
upon

upon the ancient ramparts, twelve acres were inclosed: annexed to them are small rooms, intended as barracks for soldiers; a circumstance which is said to have excited the jealousy of the King, and to have confirmed his suspicion of the Duke's traitorous intentions. In the reign of Elizabeth, the principal timbers were taken away; and time has since promoted the dilapidation. A singular coincidence has been remarked between the front of Thornbury Castle, and that of Christ Church, Oxford; and it appears as if the rivalry of the Duke and Cardinal Wolsey, was exerted even in their architecture.

OLDBURY, though erroneously supposed, by Camden, to be the *Trajectus* of the Itinerary, is evidently of remote origin, and might possibly have been occupied by the Romans, as one of the chain of forts by which they protected the passage of the Severn. Here are two *Camps*; one of them extensive, and pretty entire; the other of less dimensions, and now the site of the Church. The larger Camp is about a quarter of a mile distant, and of a square form, with a double foss and vallum. Many foundations of buildings have been dug up in an adjoining field, the surface of which is so irregular as to excite the idea of buried ruins. At Oldbury is a *Salmon Fishery*, from which the principal supply of that estimable fish is obtained for the markets of Bath and Bristol.

At AUST, or *Aust Cliff*, is a celebrated ferry over the Severn into South Wales, both for men and cattle. The appellation *Aust*, was most probably derived from the Proprætor Ostorius Scapula, who commanded in Britain previous to Julius Frontinus, and was accustomed to ferry over his legions near this place, in his fruitless attempts to subdue the Silurian Britons. Aust Cliff is further memorable, from an event in the time of Edward the Elder, who was lying here with his army, when Llewelyn, Prince of Wales, was stationed at Beachley, on the opposite bank. Llewelyn being required to pay homage to the English Sovereign, refused to cross the passage; but Edward immediately crossing in a boat, was seen, as he approached the shore, by Llewelyn, who, overcome by the condescension, rushed into the water, and taking the Monarch upon his shoulders, carried him to land, and did him

homage for the Principality. The Severn is here nearly two miles wide; the strata, on each side, are composed of heterogeneous materials; consisting of horizontal layers, of various thicknesses, from two to forty feet. The upper lime-stone is intermixed with clay, marl, pipe-clay, argillaceous sand-stone, &c. beneath is compact lime-stone; and at the base is large masses of gypsum. More southerly, the strata assumes an inclining direction; and the fissures, or veins, contain the newly discovered strontian earth, the more common carbonate of strontian, and the very rare sulphate* of strontian.

At GROVESEND, or *Grovening*, a hamlet in Alveston parish, on the brow of the hill, is a large circular *Encampment*, with double ramparts and ditches; and near it an immense *Tumulus*, which being opened in the year 1670, was found to contain several stone coffins with human bones. At a little distance, at a place called Castle Hill, is a small square *Camp*, with a single ditch and vallum.

ALMONDSBURY is a small village, situated below two singular lime-stone hills, which abruptly terminate the line through which the river Boyd flows to the Avon. The prospects from these heights are uncommonly extensive and fine; the whole vale of the Severn, with the opposite coast of Wales, being spread open to the sight. The greater part of this parish, however, consists of low pastures, defended from the inundations of the river by sea walls; yet still liable, at times, to be overflowed; and particularly from the rising of the *reins*, or tide ditches. Specimens of lead ore, and of copper, have been found in the lime-stone; and from the appearance of the connecting strata, there is every probability of lead existing in abundance.

Almondsbury

* The sulphate of strontian found here, consists of semi-transparent crystals, flanked on each side by layers of a fibrous nature, and of a slight azure color, or sometimes of a flesh-colored tinge. Other specimens exhibit a tabellated fracture, consisting of rhomboidal lamina, and those facing each other in rectangular bearings, or nearly so, not unlike the cells of the common wasp. The specific gravity of the former, differs from 3.580 to 3.596; of the latter, from 3.591 to 3.599.

Almondsbury is said to have derived its name from being the *burying-place* of *Alcmond*, a Saxon Prince, and father of King Egbert; but more probably from a *burg*, or fortification, constructed by him, and the remains of which are yet visible on an eminence to the eastward of the Church. The traces of a *Camp* are also discoverable round the brow of *Knowle Hill*, within the area of which is the Manor-House, late the family seat of the *Chesters*; but whose estates became the property of Thomas Masters, Esq. of Cirencester, about the year 1800.

The *Church* is built in the form of a cross, with a tower, finished by an octagonal spire, rising from the intersection of the nave and transept. The interior displays specimens of Norman architecture; and in the north part of the transept, is an ancient tomb of an ecclesiastic. In a *Tumulus* at Over, in this parish, opened in the year 1650, was found a human skeleton, in a sitting posture, which report affirms to have exceeded the common stature by three feet. No well-authenticated account of the discoveries made on the opening of this sepulchre, appears to have been written.

BLAIZE CASTLE, the seat of S. Harford, Esq. occupies the summit of a fine conical eminence, rising from the village of Henbury, and supposed to have been the site of a Roman *Specula*, or outpost; many Roman remains, and coins of the Lower Empire, having been discovered here. Its present name is thought to have been derived from St. Blaize, or Blazius, the patron of the woolcombers, to whom an ancient Chapel, that stood upon this eminence, is reported to have been dedicated. The Mansion, a fine castellated edifice, of considerable height and dimensions, stands on a knoll in the centre of the park, beautifully embosomed in wood: the lower parts of the eminence are also surrounded with trees.

WESTBURY-ON-TRIM is a small neat village, chiefly consisting of respectable residences belonging to the merchants and traders of Bristol. Here was a *College* for a Dean and five Canons, generally said to have been founded by Bishop Carpenter, but more truly by the famous, though eccentric, William Canynys, of Bristol, who became the first Dean. The building was

entire till the time of Charles the First, when Prince Rupert ordered it to be destroyed, lest it should afford shelter to the Parliament's troops in annoyance to the garrison of Bristol: the remains are now incorporated in a genteel mansion, the property of John Hobhouse, Esq.

In Westbury Parish, on the estate of J. Harmer, Esq. who has a beautifully-situated villa at PEN PARK, is the celebrated cavity called PEN PARK HOLE. This remarkable excavation was inspected by Captain Sturmev, in the year 1669, and afterwards by Captain Collins, in 1682; the account of whose observations were published in the Philosophical Transactions. The melancholy event which happened in March, 1775, again excited the public attention. On the seventeenth of that month, the Rev. Thomas Newnham, a Minor Canon of Bristol Cathedral, visiting the spot, with some friends, and among them, a lovely female, to whom he was shortly to have been married, descended towards the mouth of the pit, for the purpose of ascertaining its depth with a line, when his foot slipping, and the twig of an ash, which he seized for support, giving way, he was precipitated to the bottom, without a possibility of prevention. Many persons afterwards descended to search for the body, but it was not found till the expiration of thirty-nine days. In that and the following year, Captain Hamilton, a Mr. Tucker, and a Mr. White, descended into the cavity, and from their observations, a descriptive account was published by Mr. Catcott, author of a Treatise on the Deluge. It appears from this, that the mouth, or rather mouths, of the pit, run nearly east and west, the principal being about 111 feet in length, and thirty-five in width. Near the middle is a separation, made by an ash tree, whose roots extend straight across the hole, the bottom of which is about 215 feet from the surface, and covered with water; the height of the water was found to vary, according to the season of the year, from twenty to seventy-five feet. About forty feet from the bottom, is a passage running nearly horizontally, to an extent of about eighty feet; and higher up, on the opposite side, another passage, extending, in a curve line, to a considerable distance, and then, by a sudden turn, ascending,
and

and communicating with the surface by another opening. Mr. Catcott imagined this to have been a swallow, or swallet hole, to carry off the waters of the Deluge; but more rationally considered, it will appear to be nothing more than a deserted lead mine: the spar, rubble-stone, and other remains, found in the excavation, combined with the whole appearance of the interior, furnish complete evidence of this fact.

KING'S WESTON is the beautiful residence of Lord De Clifford, whose mansion, situated on a fine eminence, in a Park of nearly 500 acres in extent, is one of Vanbrugh's best works, it having more simplicity, and less affectation of cumbrous ornament, than many others of his building. A peculiarity, and, perhaps, a merit, in his architecture, was his management of chimneys, the purpose of which he concealed, by uniting them with the mass, so as to improve the general effect: this circumstance may be remarked both at Blenheim and Castle Howard, where they form pinnacles, if such a term can be applied to modern architecture. At King's Weston they are connected in an arcade, in the centre of the roof. Through the different apartments, which, excepting the Hall, are not large, many original portraits, and other paintings by the first masters, are distributed. Among the former are CROMWELL, Earl of Essex, and SIR RICHARD SOUTHWELL, both eminent statesmen in the reign of Henry the Eighth, and the immediate ancestors of Lord De Clifford: these were executed by Holbein, as well as several others that decorate this mansion. Inlaid in the doors of two cabinets, are various original miniatures of the Cliffords, and of other illustrious personages, from the time of Queen Elizabeth, to that of James the Second; these are extremely curious, and possess great merit. The situation of King's Weston is almost unique for beauty and grandeur. The Park abounds in knolls, and broken grounds; and the trees are peculiarly luxuriant; while the *embouchure* of the Avon, and wide expanse of the Severn, give an interest to the views that is but rarely paralleled.

The romantic scenery of CLIFTON has often afforded employment both to the pen and pencil; and even the village itself, which

crowns the northern summit of the cliffs, through whose disparted sides the river Avon winds its tortuous way, could once boast that happy combination of art and nature, which left few superior to it in any part of England: but so numerous and ill-arranged are the buildings which have arisen within the last thirty or forty years, that it has lost its former character, and the houses seem purposely contrived to intercept the view of each other. Many of them, indeed, are fast falling to decay; even whole streets are in a state of dilapidation. The sight of ancient ruins excites in the mind ideas of former grandeur: to these flimsy structures nothing attaches, but a contempt of that useless speculation, to which the beauty of the place has fallen a sacrifice. The vicinity, however, is still fine; and the appearance of some few mansions, happily situated, and of respectable architecture, may be permitted in exception of the general censure.

Independently of the natural beauties of its situation, Clifton has obtained celebrity from the medicinal spring which rises at the base of the rocks, and which has given origin to the HOT WELLS. Here the scenery is of a sublime character, especially from a point contiguous to the Well-House; but the valley is so narrow, and crowded with houses, that it admits of little fore-ground. The chasm through which the Avon flows in this part of its course, is formed of lime-stone rocks, shooting up precipitously to a vast height, and varying in color from light red, to brown, dark grey, and blue. In the fissure, numerous quartz crystals, and rhomboidal stalactites, and dog-tooth spars, are found. Great quantities of the rocks are annually burnt into lime. The height of the cliffs on each side is nearly equal; and the strata so nearly correspond, both in substance and inclination, that hardly a doubt can be entertained of the chasm having been formed by some violent natural convulsion.

The properties of the celebrated *Spring*, whose waters have become so renowned in cases of debility and consumption, were but very little regarded till the close of the seventeenth century. Their virtues being then announced, a few years afterwards, in 1695, the Society of Merchant Adventurers of Bristol, (proprietors
of

of the manor of Clifton,) granted a lease to Sir Thomas Day, Knt. and others, who erected the Hotwell-House, and other buildings, for the reception of company: since that period, the repute and efficacy of the spring has greatly increased.

The vicinity of Clifton must now be considered in a new light, that of the Roman station *AFONE*; to which its claims are become almost unquestionable; and particularly since the publication of the Rev. J. Evans's Tour through South Wales; to which work, from the extent of the investigation, the reader can only be referred for a satisfactory account.

STOKE HOUSE, a seat of the Dowager Duchess of Beaufort, is finely situated on a natural terrace, in the centre of an extensive park, and commands a most interesting view of the Vale of Bristol. It is a spacious mansion, and was originally built in the reign of Elizabeth; but was embattled, and altered into a castellated form, by the late owner, Lord Botetourt.

PUCKLE CHURCH, called by Camden, *Villa Regia*, from its having been the residence of some of the West Saxon Kings, is supposed to have been the place where Edmund the Elder was slain by the robber Leolf, in the year 946. Several spots are pointed out as the site of the Royal Palace; one of them was afterwards occupied by a house of the Bishops of Bath and Wells. This was formerly a market-town, but has been long disused: a manufactory of felt hats is carried on here, and in the adjoining hamlets. In the *Church* is a curious tomb, of the style of the age of Edward the Third.

The parish of **WICK-AND-ABSTON**, in addition to its natural curiosities, already described, (p. 518, 519,) is remarkable for the numerous Roman coins, urns, bricks, and other fragments, that have been dug up in a field named the *Chestles*, but vulgarly called Castles; and where, from the remains being found in such abundance, a Roman pottery is supposed to have been established. In a field adjoining, is a large upright stone, which, with two others now lying down, is conjectured to have originally been a Cromlech. Here is also an ancient *Camp*, defended on three sides by a broad ditch and double vallum, and including about twelve

acres:

acres: many coins, and other Roman remains, have been dug up within the area.

DYRHAM is celebrated for a desperate battle fought between the Britons and Saxons in the year 599; and an *Encampment* on Hinton Hill, including about twenty acres, is pointed out as the Saxon camp. William Blathwayte, Esq. the Lord of the Manor, has a very handsome Mansion here, the principal front of which is 130 feet in length. The park contains nearly 500 acres.

On the brow of the hill at LITTLE SODBURY, are the remains of a very strong *Camp*, in the form of an oblong square, extending from north to south about 300 yards, and from east to west 200 yards. The north-west side is defended by a precipitous declivity; the other three, by double ditches and ramparts. This is the last of a series of five camps, on the points of the Cotswold Hills, from Painswick to Little Sodbury: the whole are supposed to have been either formed or occupied by the Romans.

In the Church-yard at IRON ACTON, are the remains of an elegant *Cross*, in the pointed style, apparently, from its sculpture, of the time of Henry the Fourth. Mr. Lysons, who has given a view of it in his Gloucestershire Antiquities, imagines it to have been a preaching cross, as there is an entrance on the north side.

BADMINTON HOUSE, the family residence of the Dukes of Beaufort, is situated in a noble park nearly nine miles in circumference; and through which various avenues have been formed. It was erected by the first Duke of Beaufort, soon after his accession to that title in the year 1682; and is a very extensive building, on the French model, which became prevalent about the commencement of the last century. In the Hall is a large Sarcophagus of Roman sculpture, representing a bacchanalian procession; this was given to Henry, the third Duke of Beaufort, by Cardinal Alberoni. By that Nobleman, who died young in 1745, many curious and original paintings were procured during his residence in Italy, and now ornament the collection at Badminton. Among them is a Holy Family, by Raphael; and several by Guido, and Carlo Dolci, are highly esteemed. At the same time he purchased the very singular and finely-painted satirical picture, by Salvator

Rosa, and for which that artist was expelled Rome: the Sovereigns of the European nations are here depicted by different animals; as an eagle, a wolf, a sheep, a hog, a fox, a cow, and an ass; the latter has the pontifical pall thrown over him; and the blind goddess Fortune is represented showering her gifts over the whole group. The single heads of GUIDO, by himself; of CARDINAL ALBERONI, by Trevisani; of ERASMUS, and SIR THOMAS MORE, by Holbein; and of CORN. JANSEN, by himself; are all admirably executed. Some excellent Landscapes by the Italian masters are also preserved here: but the English antiquary will be most gratified by a series of fourteen portraits of the Beauforts, from John of Gaunt, from whom they trace their genealogy. These are all said to be original; and though the four first may be doubted, yet they are certainly by a very early and excellent hand; and, with the rest, were brought hither from Ragland Castle. Badminton Church, which was built by the late Duke, in 1785, and stands at the south-east angle of the mansion, is singularly elegant. The pavement of the altar part is richly composed of Florentine mosaic, displaying the family arms; and the steps are of jasper and verd antique. On each side is a specimen of monumental statuary by Rysbrach, in memory of some of the Beauforts; and the several figures, though somewhat too theatrically conceived, have great strength of expression, and may be ranked with the most elaborate works of that artist. Here is also the lower part of a *Cartoon*, of the TRANSFIGURATION, by Raphael; and Christ disputing with the Doctors, by Ghezzi.

WOTTON-UNDER-EDGE

Is a large and respectable town, standing on nearly sixty acres of ground, near the foot of a ridge of woody hills, from which situation its name has undoubtedly been derived. The old town was burnt down in the reign of King John, and a place, called the *Brands*, is supposed to mark its original site. The Church is a large and handsome fabric, containing numerous monuments, and sepulchral memorials. The inhabitants are chiefly employed in the

the clothing trade, which is carried on to a considerable extent. In this township, in 1801, were 284 houses, and 1589 inhabitants. The manor belongs to the Earl of Berkeley, by whose ancestor, Maurice, Lord Berkeley, the grant of the market was procured, in the year 1254. This town was the scene of some military transactions during the Civil Wars.

BEVERSTONE CASTLE, one of the fortified mansions of the Barons of Berkeley, preserves but little of its original character; it having been besieged in the Civil Wars, and soon afterwards nearly destroyed by fire. It was a square building, with a tower at each corner, and surrounded by a moat: only the Chapel, one of the towers, and some fragments of walls, remain: the former is now occupied as a dwelling.

TETBURY

Is a large and respectable town, situated on a pleasant and commanding eminence, and principally consisting of four streets, meeting in the centre. On the south-east side were traces of a strong *Camp*, now completely destroyed, where arrows and javelin heads have been found, with various English coins, of high antiquity. Here was also a *Castle*, traditionally said to have been built in the British times; but no authentic particulars are recorded concerning it. Roman coins, of the Lower Empire, are likewise recorded, by Rudder, to have been met with in and near the town. The *Church* is a handsome fabric, consisting of an ancient tower, and a modern body: the former is terminated by a spire, of good proportions; the latter is a successful imitation of the pointed style; appearing externally as a single nave, with cloisters, but within-side divided into aisles, by a very light arcade, and clustered columns, which literally support nothing, as the principle on which the roof of the Theatre at Oxford was constructed, has been applied to this building. The architect was the late Francis Horne, of Warwick, where he died, at an early age: the expense of the new building was nearly 6000*l*. The population of this parish, in 1801, was 2500; the number of houses 533.

LIST

OF THE

Principal Books, Maps, and Views, that have been published in Illustration of the Topography and Antiquities of the Counties contained in this Volume.

DURHAM.

"*The History and Antiquities of The County Palatine of Durham*, by William Hutchinson, Esq. F. R. S." Three Volumes, 4to. 1785, 1794; embellished with upwards of Sixty Plates.

"*An Enquiry into the ancient and present State of the County Palatine of Durham*; wherein are shown the Oppressions which attend the Subjects of this County, by the Mal-administration of the present Ministers and Officers of the said County Palatine; &c." 4to. 1729. This Work is very scarce; only a few Copies were printed, and most of them were soon destroyed as waste Paper.

"*The recommendatory Letter of Oliver Cromwell to William Lenthall*, Esq. for erecting a College and University at Durham; and his Letters Patent (when Lord Protector) for founding the same. With the Address of the Provost and Fellows of the said College to his son Richard, (when Lord Protector,) on the Death of his Father. And a Letter from William Frankeleyn to Cardinal Wolsey, Bishop of Durham, about certain Coal Mines at Wickham, and other Rights and Privileges of the Bishopric, and the Cardinal's Mint there for coining of Money," 4to.

"*The ancient Rites and Monuments of the Monastical and Cathedral Church of Durham*, collected out of ancient MSS. about the Time of the suppression; by J. D. (John Davis,) of Kidwelly." London, 1672, 12mo. This was reprinted by Dr. Hunter, without his Name, under the Title of "*Durham Cathedral, as it was before the Dissolution of the Monastery*; containing an Account of the Rites, Customs and Ceremonies used therein, &c." 12mo. 1733. This was again printed, and called a Second Edition, under the Title of "*The History of the Cathedral Church of Durham, &c.*" 12mo. Durham.

"*The Antiquities of the Abbey or Cathedral Church of Durham*; also a particular Description of the County Palatine of Durham, &c." 12mo. 1767. This is a Republication of the former, with Extracts relating to the County, from the *Magna Britannia*.

"*The Legend of St. Cuthbert*; with the Antiquities of the Church of Durham;" by Robert Hegge, 1663, 12mo.

LIST OF BOOKS, &c.

"*The Legend of St. Cuthbert, or, the Histories of his Churches at Lindisfarne, Cuncescestre, and Dunholm.*" By Robert Hegge, 1626. Printed at Darlington, 1777, 4to.

"*The Origin and Succession of the Bishops of Durham*, from the original MS. in the Dean and Chapter's Library at Durham;" 4to. 1779; by Mr. Allan.

"*Plans, Elevations, Sections, and Specimens of the Architecture and Ornaments of the Cathedral Church at Durham*, with Descriptions," was published by the Society of Antiquaries, large folio, 1801. The Drawings by J. Carter; Plates by Basire.

"*The Parochial History and Antiquities of Stockton upon Tees*; embellished with Views of the Public Buildings, &c." by John Brewster, M. A. 4to. 1796.

"*Collections relating to Sherburn Hospital in the County Palatine of Durham*; shewing the Foundation thereof; by Hugh Pudsey, about the Year 1181," &c. 1773, 4to. This was written, composed, and printed by Mr. George Allan of Darlington, who only worked off 60 Copies.

"*Spadacrene Dunelmensis*; or, A Short Treatise of an ancient Medicinal Fountain, or Vitriolic Spaw, near the City of Durham;" by Dr. Edward Wilson, 12mo. 1675.

"*Two Dissertations upon the Mint and Coins of the Episcopal Palatines of Durham*;" &c. By Mark Noble, Gent. Birmingham, 1780.

In the PHILOSOPHICAL TRANSACTIONS are the following, among other Papers. No. 145, p. 70. An Account of a Roman Monument found near Shields. No. 163, p. 726. An Account of a Salt Spring on the Banks of the River Ware. No. 266, p. 666. An Account of some Roman Inscriptions found near Durham. No. 278. A Letter concerning some Roman Antiquities found at Ebchester. No. 318, p. 215. An Account of a subterraneous Fire in a Coal Pit, where Sixty-Nine Persons were suffocated. No. 354, p. 701. A Letter concerning a Roman Inscription found near Lanchester, 1715. No. 357, p. 823. Mr. Gale's Remarks on the Inscription. No. 486, p. 173. Another Roman Inscription on an Altar near Stanhope.

In the ARCHÆOLOGIA, Vol. X. is an Account of some Antiquities in this County, in a Letter, containing "*Observations on Cataractonium, and the Parts adjacent*;" by John Cade, Esq. Another Letter, by this Gentleman, published in the VIIth. Vol. of the same Work, contains a Description of *Maiden Castle*, and some Particulars concerning *Old Durham*.

PLANS AND MAPS.

"*A Plan of the River Wear*, from Mr. Allen's Staiths to the City of Durham," 1731.

"*A Plan of the River Wear*, from Biddick Ford to the City of Durham," &c. by J. Smeaton.

"*A Plan*

LIST OF BOOKS, &c.

"*A Plan of the River Wear*, from Newbridge to Sunderland Bar, as it appeared at low water. By Burleigh and Thompson, 1737; Four long Sheets.

"*The Report of Messrs. Brindley and Whitworth, Engineers, concerning the Practicability and Expence of making a navigable Canal from Stockton, by Darlington to Winston*, in the County of Durham; with a Plan of the Country, River Tees, and intended Canal," &c. 4to. 1769.

Saxton's Map of Durham was engraved in 1576, without the Hundreds.

A Map of Durham, with the Seats of the Bishop, County Palatine, Church, and City round it, was engraved by M. Patteson, 1595.

The Latest Survey of the County is by *Captain Armstrong*, on a Scale of one Inch to a Mile; engraved by T. Jefferys, 1768. Four Sheets, with a Plan of the City of Durham in the Corner. In Smith's English Atlas is a good Map of the County.

"*Plan of the Rivers Tyne and Wear*, from Tynemouth Bar to Bywell, in the Co. of Northumberland, and from Sunderland to the Junction of Chester Dean, in Co. of Durham, with the Lands, Collieries, Waggon Ways, and Staiths thereon; including the Towns of Newcastle, Shields, Sunderland, and Chester-le-Street." By William Casson, Surveyor of Coal Mines, and Land Surveyor; 1801, Newcastle.

PRINTS.

Messrs. Bucks engraved, 1728, Views of *Lumley, Raby, Burnard, Ravensworth, Hilton, and Brancepeth Castles*, and also a S. W. View of *Yarrow Monastery*.

Lumley Castle, by Hearne and Byrne. *Darlington Church*, S. W. S. Wilkinson, del. E. Cooke, Sc. 1774. Plan and Elevation of *Mr. Hedworth's House*, at Chester-le-Street, Vit. Brit. 11. p. 88.

Axwell Park, and Gibside, are engraved in Payne's Architecture. King drew and engraved the *North-East and West Views of the Cathedral. An Interior View of the Nave and Choir*, was drawn by C. Ebdon, and engraved by T. Miller, 1769.

An Interior View of the Nave, by Turner, engraved by Cooke, was published in Taylor's "Essays on Gothic Architecture."

The Prospect of Durham from the S. E. V. Bok, del. D. M. fec.

South East View of this English Zion, 1745, and *South View of the Castle*, 1728, by Buck.

The High Force, a Cataract on the Tees, was engraved by J. Masson, 1751, from a Painting by T. Smith, of Derby.

ESSEX.

Essex has been pretty fully, though not very satisfactorily, illustrated in several Publications. The most material is entituled, "*The History and Antiquities of the County of Essex*"; compiled from the best and most ancient Historians, &c. The Whole digested, improved, perfected, and brought down to the present Time; with Maps of each Hundred, and Views of Seats," &c. by the Rev. P. Morant, Two Vols. folio, 1768. This was originally published in Numbers.

Previously to this, Mr. N. Salmon published Nineteen Numbers, folio, 1740, towards the "*History and Antiquities of the County of Essex*," This Work ends abruptly at page 460, but comprises the Hundreds of Becontree, Waltham, Ongar, Harlow, Uttlesford, Clavering, Freshwell, Dunmow, Havering (Liberty) Chafford, Barnstable, Rochford, Dengy, Winstree, and part of Thurstable.

These two Works have been abridged, and published, with some few Additions and Alterations, under the Patronage of Peter Muilman, Esq. in Six Volumes, 8vo. 1769, entituled, "*A New and complete History of Essex, from a late Survey*"; compared with the most celebrated Historians, &c. Illustrated with above Sixty Copper Plates; by a Gentleman." Parts of this Work were written by the Reverend Bate Dudley.

Mr. Morant published "*The History and Antiquities of Colchester, in Three Books; with an Appendix of Records and Original Papers*," &c. folio, 1748." This was reprinted with Improvements in his History of Essex, 1768.

"*The History and Description of COLCHESTER; with an Account of the Antiquities of that most ancient Borough*;" Two Volumes, Small 8vo. 1803, Colchester. There is neither Name, Preface, Introduction, nor Index, to this Book, and nearly the whole of its Contents is selected from Morant's History.

"*The History and Antiquities of Harwich and Dover Court, Topographical, Dynastical, and Political, &c.*" By Samuel Dale, 4to. 1736. This is illustrated with Prints of Views, Natural History, &c. and was re-published, with a New Title and an Appendix in 1732.

"*A True Copy of the Charter of Havering Atte Bower in Essex*, from King Edward the Fourth," 4to. 1757.

Robert Winstanley, of Walden, wrote a short Poetical Description of Part of this County, with Historical and Explanatory Notes, entituled, "*Poor Robin's Perambulation from Saffron Walden to London*, performed this Month of July, 1687," London, 4to. 1687.

"*An Account of the Stopping of Dagenham Breach; with the Accidents that have attended the same from the first Undertaking, &c. with a Plan of the Levels which were overflowed by the Breach.*" By Captain John Perry, 8vo. 1721.

"*An Essay upon the Witham Spa; or, a brief Enquiry into the Nature, Virtue and Uses of a Mineral Chalybeate Water at Witham in Essex, &c.*" By James Taverner, M. B. 8vo. 1737.

" An

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"*An Account of the Tilbury Water*; containing a Narrative of the Discovery of the medicinal Qualities of this Spring, Experiments on the Water," &c. 8vo. 1742. By Dr. John Andree. A Third Edition was published in 1764.

"*Plantæ Woodfordiensis*: a Catalogue of the more perfect Plants growing spontaneously about Woodford," 8vo. 1771. By Richard Warner, Esq. "This Book," says Mr. Gough, "was never published; but a few Copies were given to the Author's friends."

"*The History and Antiquities of Pleshy*," by Richard Gough, Esq. 4to. 1803. This Work contains a History and Vindication of Thomas de Woodstock, Duke of Gloucester, and Sixteen Prints, with a long and interesting Preface.

Mr. Nicholas Tindal published Two Numbers of a Work relating to "*The History and Antiquities of Essex*." These contain Accounts of Felsted, Pantfield, Raine, Braintree, Stebbing, and Part of Bocking; with a large Map of Hinkford Hundred.

"*The History of the ancient Town and once famous Abbey of Waltham*, &c. together with the Inquisition taken of the Perambulation of the Forest of Waltham, &c. Illustrated with many curious Copper Plates." By J. Farmer, of Waltham Abbey, Gentleman, 8vo. 1735.

"*Plans, Elevations, and Prospects of Audley End, when a Royal Palace*," were engraved in 1676, by Henry Winstanley, large folio, containing Twenty-five Plates. The Copper Plates for this Work having been lost or destroyed, a complete Set of the Prints is become very rare; Lord Braybrooke has a handsome Copy: and Mr. Dent has lately given 30l. for another. Dr. Mead's Copy was sold for 50l. in a sale by a mistake of the persons employed to bid for it. A small Set of these Plates have been engraved.

"*The New Charter granted to the Mayor and Commonality of Colchester*, 1763, with Recitals of the Old Charters confirmed by the present," 8vo. 1764.

"*A History and Description of Hedingham Castle, with Plans, Views, and Sections*," have been published by the Society of Antiquaries: written by L. Majendie, Esq. the Drawings by J. Carter.

THE PHILOSOPHICAL TRANSACTIONS contain several Papers relating to this County. No. 239, p. 91. Account of Two large Eels, caught at Cricksea and Malden. No. 249, p. 45. Letter from Dr. Derham concerning Weather, Wind, Rain, &c. No. 335, p. 478. Dr. Derham's Observations on some subterraneous Trees found near Dagenham, &c. Vol. 47, Article 27. A Letter concerning Mr. Bright of Malden.

"*Some Account of New Hall, or Beaulieu Palace*," has been published by the Society of Antiquaries, with Prints from Drawings by Vertue. The grand painted Window belonging to the Chape! here, now at Westminster, has been engraved by Basire.

THE ARCHÆOLOGIA. Vol. I. contains an Account of Roman Antiquities found at Wanstead. Vol. V. An Account of Two Roman Stations, and of some Roman Antiquities. Vol. XII. An Account
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of the Manor of Great Tey. Vol. XIV. An Account of some Roman Antiquities found at Toppesfield; also an Account of a Military Way, with Plates.

In Mr. Lysons's *Environs of London*, Vol. IV. are particular Accounts of several Parishes of Essex, in the Vicinity of London. Newcourt's "Repertorium," Vol. II. 4to. comprehends the *Ecclesiastical History of Essex*.

"*A Diary of the Siege of Colchester*, under the Lord General Fairfax, from Tuesday, June 13th, to Thursday, August 22d, 1648," 4to.

MAPS AND PLANS.

"*A New and exact Plan of Colchester*," by W. Fidgett, 1724.

"*A Plan of Colchester*," by Thomas Sparrow; with Views of the Castle, St. Botolph's and St. John's Church, and Gate, at the Sides, was engraved by E. Rooker.

Saxton's Map of this County, 1576, is the first that is divided into Hundreds. That in *Speed's Theatre* was made by Norden, and augmented by Speed.

Ogilby and Morgan published a *Survey of Essex*, with the Roads therein exactly measured, and the Arms of the Gentry on the Borders.

A Map of Essex, by Robert Morden, and Jos. Park, with the Roads, actual Surveys, and measured situations of Towns, Seats, and Houses, &c. One Sheet, with Arms at the Sides.

A new *Map of Essex*, by actual Survey and Dimensuration, &c. by John Warburton, 1749. Two Sheets Imperial Atlas.

The most complete *Survey of Essex*, is by John Chapman and Peter Andre, in Twenty-five Sheets, 1774. This is reduced into One Sheet, with Plans of Colchester and Harwich Harbour.

PRINTS.

Three Views and Ground Plan of the *Castle at Colchester*, on Two Plates, published by the Society of Antiquaries.

Rocque engraved a Plan of the House and Gardens at *Wanstead*; with Views at the Sides; Two Sheets, 1735.

West Front of *Wanstead House*, with Four new Towers; Vit. Brit. III. p. 39. Plan of the principal Floor and West Front of the First Design, Vol. I. Pl. XXI. XXII.

Elevation and Plan of *Leyton Grange*. Vit. Brit. III. p. 94.

The Society of Antiquaries have had Three Views engraved of the ancient Wood-Church at *Greensted*.

Plan and Elevation of *Moulsham Hall*, built by B. Leoni; Vit. Brit. IV. p. 30, 31.

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In Buck's Views of Antiquities are Prints of *Colchester, Hadleigh, and Heddingham Castles; Leez and St. Osyth's Priors; and St. John's Abbey.*

Dr. Stukeley had Six Plates of the *Earth Works on Lexden Heath*, engraved by P. Benezech from a Survey made in 1759, for his intended History of British Kings: these are a general Map of the Works; Three perspective Views of King Cunobeline's Circus; a Section of the Works of the Circus; and the British Amphitheatre, called King Coil's Kitchen.

GLOCESTERSHIRE.

GLOCESTERSHIRE has had more than its proportionate share of local Historians; for whilst some Counties are unnoticed in Topographical Literature, this has been described and illustrated in various Folio, Quarto, and Octavo Volumes.

"*The ancient and present State of Gloucestershire*," by Sir Robert Atkins, Knt. Folio 1712. Second Edition, 1768. The History of this Book is rather curious. It was published by Sir Robert's Executors, and most of the Copies were burnt by an accidental fire at the House of Mr. Bowyer, Printer. Most of the Plates fell into the Hands of Mr. Herbert, Engraver; who had those re-engraved that were lost, and reprinted the History in 1768. In this he corrected a few literal Errors, but carelessly omitted many others that were noticed in the Errata. Great Part of this Second Edition was also burnt.

"*A New History of Gloucestershire*, comprising the Topography, Antiquities, Curiosities, Produce, Trade, and Manufactures of that County, &c. &c. Illustrated with a Map of the County. Views of the Gentlemen's Seats, &c." Folio, 1779. This was compiled and published by Samuel Rudder, a Bookseller of Cirencester.

"*Historical, Monumental, and Genealogical Collections relative to the County of Gloucester*," printed from the original Papers of the late Ralph Bigland, Esq. Folio, 1791. This Work is publishing in Numbers. One Vol. and 10 Nos. are now published. A great Part of it was edited by the Reverend James Dallaway, whose Notes form the most interesting Portion of the Work.

"*A Collection of Gloucestershire Antiquities*," by Samuel Lysons, F. R. S. and F. A. S. Folio, 1801. This elegant Work contains 38 Pages of Description, and 110 Plates, all drawn and etched by the Author.

"*An Account of Roman Antiquities discovered at Woodchester, in the County of Gloucester*," by Samuel Lysons, F. R. S. and F. A. S. London, 1797; Imperial Folio; with Forty-Three Plates, mostly coloured, of Tesselated Pavements, Fragments of Sculpture, Architecture, &c. 10l. 10s.

"*The History of the County of Gloucester; compressed and brought down to the Year 1803.*" By the Rev. Thomas Rudge, B. D.

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Two Volumes, 8vo. 1803. The Author promises another Volume on the History and Antiquities of the City of Gloucester.

"*The History of Gloucestershire*," by W. H. Yate, Esq. and the Rev. D. Fosbrooke, F. S. A. 4to. 1803. This Work is publishing in Numbers.

"*The Rural Economy of Gloucestershire*," including its Dairy System, &c. by Mr. Marshall; Two Volumes, 8vo. Second Edition, 1796.

"*The History and Antiquities of Tewkesbury*," by W. Dyde; Second Edition, 8vo. 1798.

"*The History of the ancient Town of Cirencester*," by S. Rudder, 8vo. 1790. Second Edition.

"*The History of Cheltenham and its Environs*: including an Inquiry into the Nature and Properties of the Mineral Waters, &c. and a concise View of the County of Gloucester," 8vo. 1803. By H. Ruff, a Bookseller of Cheltenham.

"*The History and Antiquities of the City of Gloucester*," 8vo. 1781.

"*An Account of the City and Suburbs of Gloucester*," 8vo. 1792.

"*The Gloucester New Guide*; containing, an Account of every Thing worthy of Observation respecting the City, &c. and particularly the Cathedral, &c." By the Reverend Mr. Rudge, 12mo. 1802.

"*An Address to the Magistrates of the County of Gloucester*, &c. on a Motion to consider of the Appointment of Officers; and of adopting Regulations for the Government of the new Prisons building within the County." By Sir George Onesiphorous Paul, Bart. 8vo. 1789.

"*A Tour to Cheltenham Spa; or Gloucestershire Displayed*; containing an Account of Cheltenham in its improved State, &c." by Simeon Moreau, M. C. (Master of the Ceremonies.) Cheltenham, 12mo. 1788. Third Edition.

"*An Experimental Enquiry concerning the Cheltenham Water*, &c." By A. Fothergill, of Bath, M. D. F. R. S.

"*The History of Sudeley Castle, near Winchcomb*." By the Reverend Cooper Willyams, Folio; reprinted in 18mo. 1803.

"*A Treatise on Cheltenham Waters*," &c. by Thomas Jameson, M. D. 8vo. 1804.

"*A true Relation of the late Expedition of Robert Earl of Essex, for the Relief of Gloucester; with the Description of the Fight at Newbury*." London, 1643, 4to.

"*A brief and exact Relation of the most material and remarkable Passages that happened in the late well-formed and as valiantly defended Siege laid before the City of Gloucester*: Collected by John Dorney, Esq. Towne Clarke, who was there resident during the said Siege." Lond. 1643, 4to.

"*A Relation*

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"*A Relation of the taking of Ciceter, &c. on Thursday, February 2, 1642, by 7000 of the Cavaliers, &c. sent to a Friend in London, by one who was present at, and sometime after the taking of it.* Published because of the many false Reports that were in phraise concerning that Business." London, 1642, 4to.

"*A true Relation of the taking of the Town of Ciceter by the King's Forces, &c.*" London, 1643, 4to.

"*The Petitions of the Inhabitants of Cyrencester, whose Names are hereunto subjoined, presented to his Majesty at Oxford; with his Majesty's Answer.*" London, 1642, 4to.

"*A candid Enquiry concerning the Benefactions of the late Mrs. Rebecca Powell in Favour of the Town of Cirencester; by a Native of the Place.*" London, 1765, 8vo.

"*An Account of the beautiful painted Windows in Fairford Church, Cirencester.*" 1765, 12mo.

"*The History of the Parish and Abbey of Hayles, proposed as a Specimen of a new History of the County.*" Folio, 1768.

"*The Customes of the Manor of Painswick, in the County of Gloucester.*" London, 1660.

"*Annalia Dubrensia; upon the Yearly Celebration of Mr. Robert Dover's Olympic Games upon Cotswold Hills.* Written by Michael Drayton, Esq." London, 1636, 4to. "Mr. Dover was an Attorney at Barton on the Heath, in Warwickshire; and being of an active and public Spirit, obtained leave of James the First to institute these Games, which he conducted in Person, habited in a Suit of his Majesty's old Clothes. They were resorted to by the Nobility and Gentry for sixty Miles round, and continued for forty Years; even, says Wood, 'till the rascally Rebellion was begun by the Presbyterians.' To this Book is prefixed a Cut, representing the various Games and Sports, Dancing and Hunting; with a Maze, and Wooden Castle on a Hill, and Guns firing; and the great Director, Dover, on horseback." Gough.

"*Some Copies of Original Instruments and Papers; collected for the Use and Benefit of the Clergy and Churchwardens of the Diocese of Gloucester, &c.* By Edward Loggin Griffin, L.L.B." Cirencester, 8vo. 1720.

"*The Laws and Customs of the Miners in the Forest of Dean.*" 12mo. 1687.

"*A strange and wonderful Discovery of Houses under Ground, at Colton's Field, in Gloucestershire.*" 1685, 4to.

"*An Historical Relation of the Military Government of Gloucester from the beginning of the Civill Warre, &c. by John Corbet, Preacher of God's Word.*" London, 1645. Small 4to.

In the PHILOSOPHICAL TRANSACTIONS, No. 137, p. 931, is "An Account of the Iron Works in the Forest of Dean." No. 20, "An Account of some Sanative Waters in this County." No. 461, p. 830. "An examination of the Cheltenham Waters, by C. H. Semkenberg; and Remarks on it, by C. M." (Cromwell Mortimer.) No. 143, p. 1. "A Description and Draught of Pen Park Hole, by Captain Collins." No. 243, p. 279. "An Account of Stones in this County, by Edward Llyud."

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In the *ARCHÆOLOGIA*, Vol. V. is an Account of Two Roman Camps in this County. In Vol. X. a Description, with Prints, of the Church of Quenington, by S. Lysons, Esq. F. S. A. Vol. XIV. contains "Observations on some of the Tombs in the Abbey Church at Tewkesbury; by S. Lysons, Esq."

A Survey of this County, on Six Sheets, one Inch to a Mile, by Isaac Taylor, was published in 1777. This was reduced to one Sheet, and published by Mr. Faden in 1800.

PRINTS, &c.

Gloucester Cathedral: South-West View, drawn and engraved by T. Bonner, Folio, 1797. North-West View of the Abbey, in 1732, by Buck. The Monument of Edward II. Gravelot, del. C. Du Bosc, Sc. The Ichnography of the Cathedral, Wal. Merricke, del. J. Harris, Sc. Ten small Views of Parts of this Cathedral, were drawn and engraved by T. Bonner, for No. I. of the "*Perspective Itinerary*."

The *Cross* at Gloucester, G. Vertue, Sc. 1751, with Eight Statues at the Sides. The Tomb and Effigies of George Duke of Clarence, and Isabella, his Duchess, were engraved by S. Wale, 1745.

Berkeley, St. Briavel, Sudeley, and Beverstone Castles, were engraved by Buck.

Berkeley Castle; Monuments of the Berkeley Family, J. Carter, del. Basire, Sc. were published by the Society of Antiquaries. Some Basso Relief Heads, &c. at Berkeley Chapel, were drawn and etched by J. Carter, for his Antiquities.

Hayles Abbey, South-West View, by Buck.

Thornbury Castle, South View, by Buck.

High-Meadow, Seat of Lord Viscount Gage, Vit. Brit. Vol. III.

King's Weston, Seat of Mr. Southwell, Vit. Brit. Vol. I.

Corrections and Additions to Vol. V.

Page 17, for *Dur* read *Dun*.

P. 189, l. 25, for 1329, read 1389.

P. 193, l. 12, for *Third*, read *Eighth*.

P. 254, l. 23, for *Bycknaere*, read *Bycknacre*.

Same Page, l. 26, for *Toby*, read *Thoby*.

P. 297, lines 18; and 30, for *Constantine*, read *Constantius*.

P. 459, l. 3. for *Second*, read *First*.

P. 540, l. 4, for *face*, read *plan*.

I N D E X

TO THE FIFTH VOLUME OF

THE BEAUTIES OF ENGLAND AND WALES.

* * * The Names of MARKET TOWNS are printed in small Capitals ; and those of *Villages* in Italics.

The principal Abbeys, Castles, Churches, Encampments, Monuments, Pictures, Portraits, Pricories, Roman Stations and Antiquities, *described* in this Volume, will be found referred to in the Index under one of these Heads.

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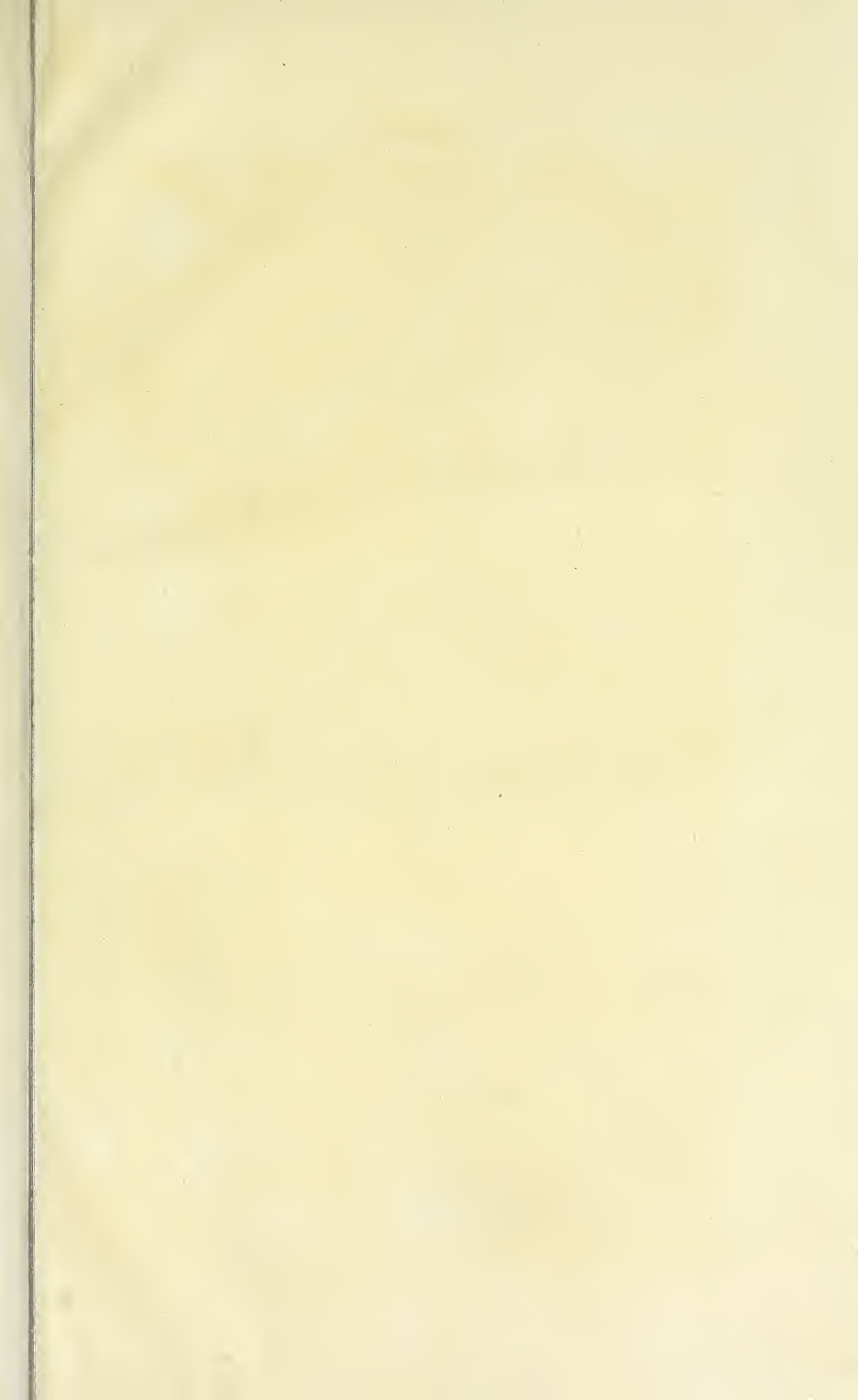
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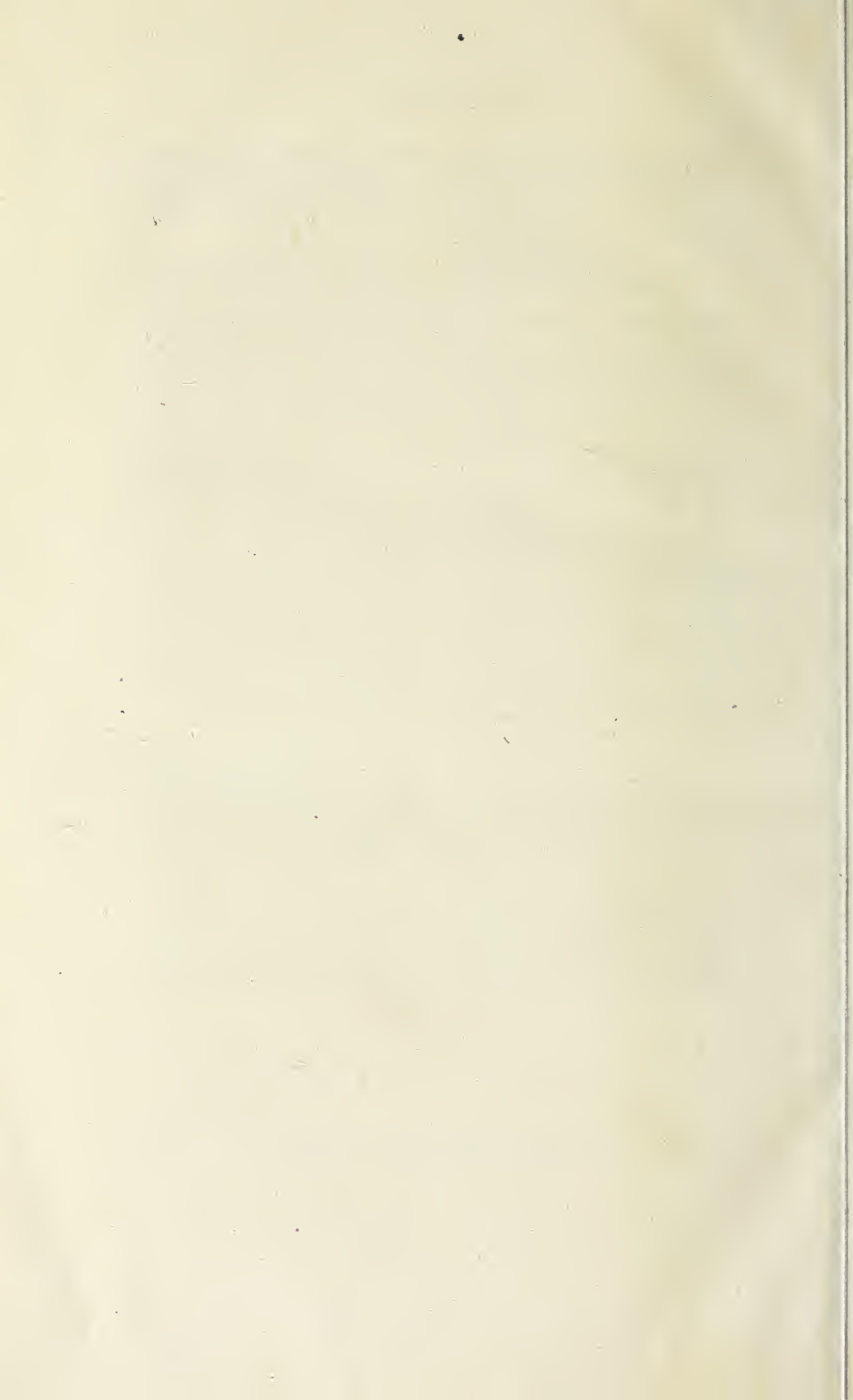
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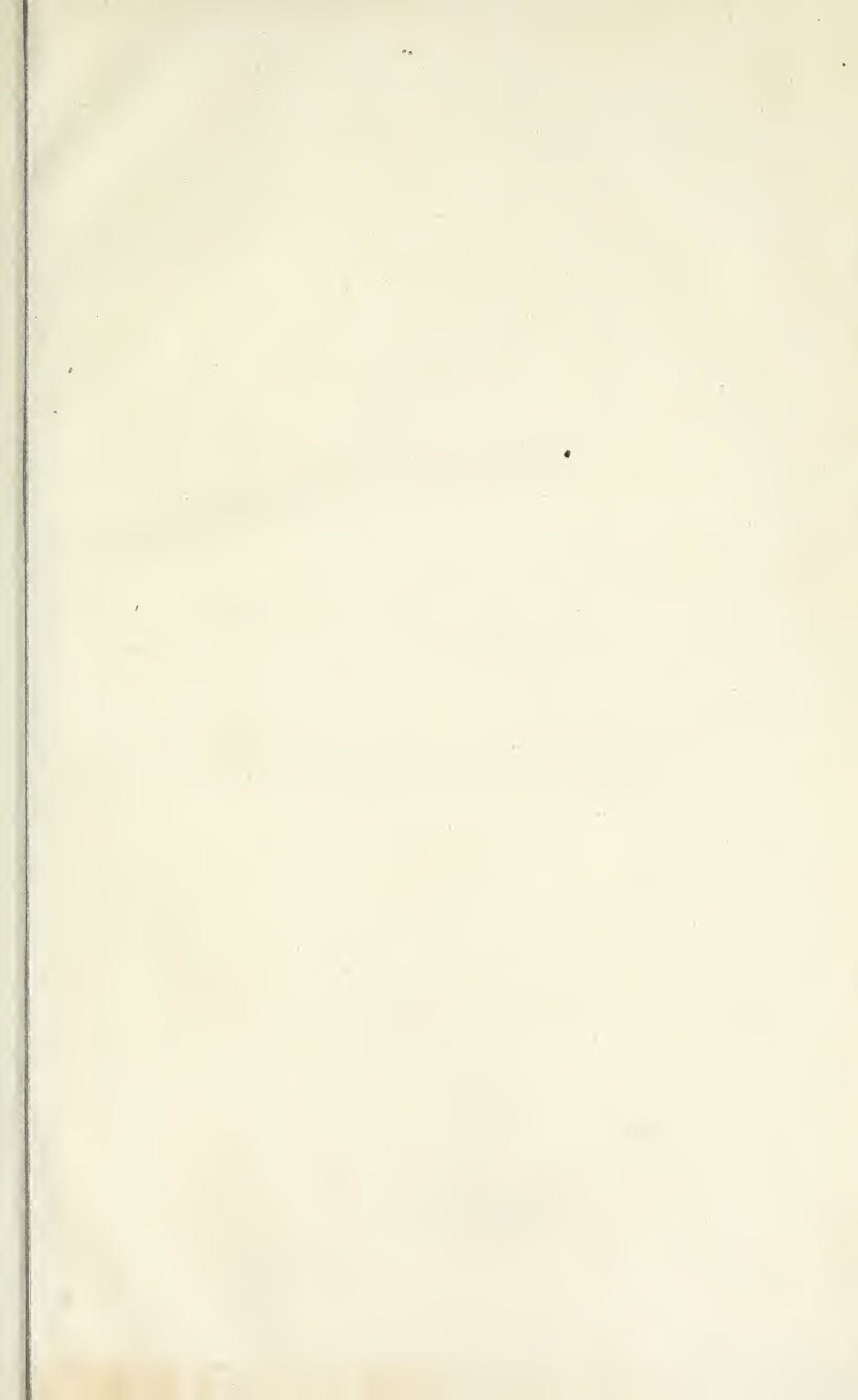
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